

DAILY REPORT*Asia & Pacific*

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REACTION TO STATE DEPARTMENT 'MIDWAY' STATEMENT REPORTED

OW091115Y Tokyo KYODO in English 1052 GMT 9 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Tokyo, February 9 KYODO--The U.S. State Department's statement Wednesday regarding the aircraft carrier Midway reaffirmed American policy to respect Japan's three-point nonnuclear principle, Foreign Ministry quarters said Thursday. The quarters stressed the two countries' agreement over that principle of Japan not manufacturing, possessing or allowing nuclear weapons to be brought into Japan.

The State Department issued the unusual statement after the Japanese Diet took up a testimony given by U.S. Navy Secretary Graham Claytor Jr before a House of Representatives committee Tuesday. Claytor's testimony suggested that the Midway, based at Yokosuka, Kanagawa Prefecture, carried nuclear-armed aircraft. The State Department said Claytor's remarks merely illustrated the utility and adaptability of aircraft carriers in general.

Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda and Foreign Minister Sunao Sonoda, speaking in the Diet, said Claytor's remarks were nothing more than a reference to general versatility of aircraft carriers. Foreign Ministry quarters said the State Department's statement showed complete integrity of views between the two countries. They also said the go government did not request Washington to issue such a statement. They noted in particular the statement's reference to the 1969 Nixon-Sato communique regarding the "particular" sentiments of the Japanese people against nuclear arms.

Meanwhile, Makoto Tanabe, chairman of the Japan Socialist Party's Diet policy committee, told newsmen that the government should ask the United States about facts of the Claytor testimony.

Zenmei Matsumoto, chairman of the Japan Communist Party's Diet policy committee, said that his party would question the government on the matter in the Diet. He accused the government of allowing passage of nuclear-armed U.S. warships through Japan. Claytor's testimony that U.S. forces carried out "Operation Broken Arrow" (training for nuclear accident) in Okinawa was a grave matter, Matsumoto said.

DPRK REQUEST FOR DELAY IN DEBT PAYMENT WORRIES TRADERS

OW090057Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0015 GMT 9 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Tokyo, February 9 KYODO--Trading and industrial circles concerned are worried over North Korea's fresh request for a 3-year postponement of settlement of the outstanding trade account, the Japan-Korea Trade Association revealed Wednesday. After the oil crisis in 1973, North Korea's foreign exchange reserves began to dwindle speedily due to the sudden decline in the market prices of mineral products, which are North Korea's principal export items, and the increase in military expenditures. As a result, North Korea's payments for imports began to fall into arrears.

Toward the end of 1976, North Korea concluded agreements with Japan and such European nations as France and West Germany on settlement of its unpaid trade accounts with these nations. According to the agreement with Japan, North Korea was to pay back the arrears from 1978 through 1980, and pay interest on the arrears by quarterly installments within 1977.

In reality, however, North Korea fulfilled only two instalments, and the remaining sum of interest, which is about 1,500 million yen, is still in arrears.

Late in January this year, Sadao Murakami, who is a member of the board of directors of the Japan-Korea Trade Association, visited North Korea to discuss North Korea's trade account with Japan. The North Korean side proposed to postpone settlement of the trade account again for 3 years, from 1981 to the middle of 1984, and pay the remaining interest by June this year. The same association is worrying over how to deal with this proposal, because private circles concerned cannot bear the burden to be imposed on them by the acceptance of this proposal, while such a step as application of the export insurance system will lead to virtual suspension of Japan-North Korea trade. It is scheduled to hold its plenary meeting Friday to discuss countermeasures.

North Korea has proposed to postpone again settlement of the trade account with Japan, because it needs enormous funds to carry out its second 7-year plan which will go into force this year. North Korea might have presented similar requests to its European creditors as well. Reportedly, North Korea is planning to expand exports and cut imports, in order to secure necessary funds for the settlement of its unpaid trade accounts.

FUKUDA TO ATTEND WESTERN INDUSTRIAL SUMMIT IN BONN

OW090415Y Tokyo KYODO in English 0402 GMT 9 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Tokyo, February 9 KYODO--Prime Minister Takeo Fukuda will attend the fourth summit of Western industrial nations scheduled to be held this summer in Bonn, the government said Thursday. The decision will be conveyed to the West German Government in a few days, government sources said.

The schedule for the summit will be finalized at a working-level meeting of the seven participating nations by May. Deputy Foreign Minister Hiromichi Miyazaki will represent Japan at the working-level meeting.

USHIBA INTERVIEWED ON WORLD ECONOMICS, JAPAN'S ROLE

LD081425Y Paris LE FIGARO in French 4-5 Feb 78 p 5 LD

[Alain Vernay interview with Japanese State Minister for External Economic Affairs Nobuhico Ushiba: "Japan Not Responsible for European Unemployment"--date, place not specified]

[Text] Question: Why did Japanese imports decline by some 0.6 percent in 1977 when your government had made it clear that it hoped they would increase considerably? Did the business world refuse to listen, or are Japanese economic structures too rigid to allow growth except by exporting?

Answer: The main reason for the stagnation of Japanese imports has been the depression in certain major industries, such as steel and shipbuilding. People were reluctant to spend, and savings reached a very high level. As far as economic structures are concerned, it would be a mistake to think that the economy depends principally on exports, which represent only 12 percent of GNP against 25 percent in Germany.

Our growth in the past has been mainly due to enlargement of the domestic market, made possible by clever recourse to tax reductions and raising of the support price paid to rice producers, which have improved purchasing power. The role of exports, however important, has been smaller.

Question: The joint communique published in Tokyo following the visit by Robert Strauss, the American official responsible for international trade problems, have been interpreted differently in Tokyo and Washington. Can you explain your government's interpretation, particularly with regard to Prime Minister Fukuda's promise to reduce your balance of payments surpluses? Does fulfillment of this commitment depend on how successful the United States is in maintaining the dollar's stability?

Answer: I will certainly not deny that we told the United States very clearly that a stable dollar is necessary to achieve a high growth rate in Japan and reduce our balance of payments surplus. That is quite true. But it is not true that we made its success a precondition.

As for the joint communique, it is not so much an agreement concluded between our two countries as the expression of two parallel policies intended to achieve the same aim: namely, economic growth without inflation and stabilization of the world economy, while at the same time combating protectionism and unemployment.

Even though we naturally agreed on certain subjects, the main thing is actually this likeminded approach to our respective objectives, without the slightest discrimination against any other country in the world. Although some Europeans thought we had granted privileges of some kind to the United States, they were entirely mistaken.

Question: Do you think that the United States has abandoned the idea of pushing up the yen while letting the dollar slide?

Answer: I believe that the United States has gradually come to realize that a dollar which is weak and too wildly fluctuating is not good for it or for the world economy. These factors have been taken into consideration and this is why President Carter himself said so recently.

Question: How can Prime Minister Fukuda's declarations proposing a 7-percent growth rate for Japanese GNP in 1978 be interpreted as an objective, but not as a promise or a commitment?

Answer: The prime minister wanted to make it understood that a country's growth rate must be determined by this country's government and by it alone. We therefore told the world that we hope to reach a growth rate of 7 percent in the new tax year--we are not yet in it--which begins 1 April. This is not a commitment to anyone else, it is an internal objective that we will do everything possible to achieve, while hoping that the effects will be beneficial for others.

Question: Do you think you will achieve it?

Answer: I believe so, provided there is more stability in international trade. This is why it seems to me even more important to reduce our current balance surplus than to have 7-percent growth.

Question: Will such growth help other countries restore their trade balance with Japan by reducing the pressure from your exports or by increasing your imports?

Answer: You must realize that this growth will result solely, yes solely, from the expansion of the Japanese market. We are certainly not counting on a foreign trade surplus next year. We believe that our basic balance will be restored. Foreign countries will benefit both through reduced pressure from our exports and increased sales opportunities in Japan.

Question: Which countries should benefit first?

Answer: Europe and America, which sell us raw materials and semifinished products. As our economy recovers and private investments resume, demand for capital goods and consumer goods will increase.

Question: According to Japanese newspapers, Western countries often make Japan a scapegoat for their own problems. Which reproaches made by foreigners seem to you the least justified?

Answer: The direct link which is established between unemployment and Japanese imports. This is a viewpoint which I have encountered in the United States as well as in certain European countries. Yet, in actual fact there are important structural causes of unemployment. In the United States they are very often of an ethnic nature and in Europe you have 6 million foreign workers and 6 million unemployed--something which people, all too ready to blame us, tend to forget. This is what seems to me unfounded.

Question: On the other hand, are there criticisms which you admit are accurate?

Answer: Certainly, for example the reproach that our exports tend to concentrate on a narrow sector of the economy and then grow very fast. This is a situation any country would find very difficult to deal with.

People also comment that it is harder to penetrate the Japanese market than most others. This is probably true, not because of a desire to close it to foreign goods but because of the weight of historical and social traditions. I am convinced that these obstacles can be overcome by the joint efforts of businessmen.

Question: How many years will it take?

Answer: This will depend at least 50 percent on your exporters efforts. For my part, I hope they will be intensified.

Question: What criticism does Japan believe it can justifiably make of the United States, Europe or particular countries within it?

Answer: As I said, I would like us to be judged more fairly. Exporters are not trying seriously enough to find out how much the Japanese market has opened up following the many consultations which we have had recently with the Europeans and the Americans. They prefer to say that these measures are inadequate without having put them to the test practically as businessmen.

Question: To put it in plain, everyday language, what more can the French do to sell more to your country?

Answer: If you want to reach the public at large--and only this can make rapid growth possible--you must not try to sell only high-priced goods with a limited sales volume. You must also consent to spend more and reduce your profit margins, in view of the number of middlemen in distribution channels.

The example of the success of products from Hong Kong, Taiwan and Singapore in Japan shows that there are no barriers and no discrimination, despite complaints from our producers who demand protection.

Question: Do you believe that the Japanese would buy French cars?

Answer: Certainly; they would love to, but for this to happen it is necessary to create a vast distribution network or else use a Japanese network, and in both cases this is very expensive.

Question: Would it cost tens of millions of dollars?

Answer: No, not that much! But you must admit that at present the balance of payments between our two countries is less uneven than the balance of trade. Japan is the main customer for French haute couture. Last year, I am told, it paid \$80 million in duties to the ready-to-wear industry. It has drawn up a contract for the recycling of nuclear products, amounting to \$1 billion, which will represent an annual contribution of \$100 million. The enrichment of nuclear materials represents a market of \$1.5 billion, and it will begin in 1979 or 1980. It is not enough, but it is encouraging.

Question: Now that you have nearly reached the end of your world tour, have you formed ideas that you did not have at the start about the problem of international trade?

Answer: New ideas? Not really. But I have discovered that protectionist feelings are much stronger than I had thought in some parts of the United States and Europe, and that there is a very urgent need to combat them as best we can. As soon as possible. Right away.

Question: What have you noted about the GATT negotiations which have just begun? What do you think their results should be?

Answer: The way they began 23 January was most promising. Results will depend to a large extent on the EEC. We also have the interests of the developing countries at heart.

Question: What do you think of Raymond Barre's idea of advocating ordered growth of international trade?

Answer: Having known the premier for some time, I know that he is a convinced supporter of free trade. I agree with him most strongly. However, I am not sure that I entirely grasp what he means by the expression "organized freedom of trade," I am sorry, "ordered growth of trade."

But I know quite well that absolute freedom does not exist in this sphere: GATT is probably the most important collection of rules governing international trade and which we have all accepted. There is no danger as long as the exceptions do not become so numerous that they appear to become the rule and free trade appears to become the exception. The peril then becomes great, especially if there is a world crisis which increases the difficulties. But the latter must not make us forget that international trade has been the main engine of prosperity. Nothing can replace it.

Question: How does Japan receive the plan for a new international economic order which, within the framework of the North-South dialog, implies a certain specialization as far as the big countries are concerned?

Answer: My interpretation differs from yours. It seems to me that it essentially signifies a transfer of resources from the developed countries to the developing countries. It is necessary to determine how and in what time this can be carried out in such a way that it does not destroy the market economy.

When the less developed countries are approaching the takeoff stage we should not hesitate to ask them for a right of reciprocity for our products on their markets. This is perfectly natural since the taxpayers money we are giving them must not be wasted.

Question: What countries do you have in mind? Korea or Brazil?

Answer: Brazil and Korea and the countries which have reached halfway in their development.

Question: The idea of a new international economic order seems to me to have defensive aspects insofar as each country is anxious to retain certain spheres. Is Japan demanding ferrous metallurgy, the motor industry, shipbuilding and electronics among its own spheres?

Answer: Japan has never demanded any kind of monopoly, for instance, in the spheres of shipbuilding and steel. It is because of a kind of error in our forecasts of market needs, aggravated by the savage rise in oil, that we have excess capacities. At certain times--in the event of an international depression, for instance--we must be able to reach agreements on reducing capacities. In this case the good sense of businessmen can be relied upon.

Question: When Japan is ranked among the countries with high wages, does it seem to you dangerous that complete plants with the most modern technology are exported to countries with very low wages which are likely to practice a kind of social dumping?

Answer: That is a difficult problem to solve. All developed countries will have to face it in the coming years. But we think that attempts must be made to raise the economic level of developing countries and that industrialization is the most important means of achieving this. For our part, we have encouraged the rise in the economies of Korea and other Asian countries.

Question: Don't you regret that today?

Answer: No, certainly not, even if at present there is a shortage of demand in comparison with production throughout the world. The rise in the economies of these countries is more important than the difficulties it has caused us. Indeed, it is in this way that demand will ultimately be stimulated.

It is also the aim of our development aid. Our past performance has not been brilliant, but we are going to double our official aid in the next 5 years, and the government has so pledged.

Question: Do you think the industrialized countries' effort to absorb the products of less developed nations ought to develop on broad regional lines and that Japan, for instance, ought to seek a rapprochement primarily with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations [ASEAN] countries?

Answer: We greatly prefer a global approach, and even if we take measures of regional interest we always think about their world effect.

Question: So are you afraid you will be criticized for seeking to create a coprosperity zone?

Answer: No, no, that is altogether outmoded. Even if the ASEAN countries are very important for us and even if we give them our assistance, we by no means forget the interests of the other parts of the world.

Question: If Japan's partners were to accept just one idea among all those which Tokyo is attempting to explain, which would you like it to be?

Answer: It is difficult for me to indicate just one. But I would like people to understand the extent to which Japan, so poor in natural resources and so convinced of the interdependence of all the world's countries, sincerely desires to contribute to the upsurge of world economy and, more particularly, of international trade. I would like people so much to come and see things on the spot instead of criticizing us!

TRUCK CARRYING RADIOISOTOPES STOLEN IN TOKYO

OW081143Y Tokyo KYODO in English 1048 GMT 8 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Tokyo, February 8 KYODO--A radioisotope-carrying truck has been stolen from a parking lot here, the Science and Technology Agency announced Wednesday.

The 2-ton truck carried 7,000 metal-sealed small packs of americium-241, a radioactive material, which a fire alarm maker planned to use for smoke sensors, officials said.

The combined radioactive intensity of the stolen radioisotopes will reach 11.9 millicuries, they said.

The truck disappeared from the parking area in Itabashi Ward, Tokyo, sometime between Saturday evening and Monday morning. It was en route to Hochiki Corporation's plant in Machida, western Tokyo.

'INDEPENDENT' REUNIFICATION DESPITE ROK 'MANEUVERING' SOUGHT

SK090735Y Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2316 GMT 8 Feb 78 SK

[NODONG SINMUN 9 February editorial: "Korea Is One, and Should Not Be Divided in Two"]

[Text] The foreign and domestic splittists are more nakedly pursuing the "two Koreas" scheme and blocking the reunification of our nation. Today the United States is going all out to create an atmosphere to permanently divide Korea and legalize its division. At the same time, the South Korean Pak Chong-hui clique, responding to the United States, is clamoring about the "impossibility of reunification" and permanent division of Korea.

These "two Koreas" schemes by foreign and domestic splittists run counter not only to our people's consistent desire to end the artificial division and achieve the fatherland's reunification, but also to the will of the peace-loving people of the world who support peace and Korea's peaceful reunification and to the demand of the times.

On 1 February the DPRK Government issued a memorandum expressing its desire to achieve the fatherland's reunification and to prevent the danger of permanent division of our nation and people. In the memorandum we brought to light the "two Koreas" plotting by the foreign and domestic splittists and again clarified our firm position to achieve reunification.

Our people do not want to live in a divided country. The division was forcibly created by outside forces who do not desire reunification of our country, and by the schemes of their nation-selling stooges.

The "two Koreas" policy is a result of the U.S. imperialists' aggressive policy toward Korea. Having failed to achieve their aggressive ambition due to the strength of North Korea and the intensified struggle of the Asian people, the U.S. imperialists, who tried to effect an anticommunist reunification of Korea by supporting their puppets, then tried to seize and dominate South Korea forever. The United States not only tries to perpetuate the division by fabricating "two Koreas" while continuing to dominate South Korea as its colonial military base; it is maneuvering to achieve aggressive domination of all of Korea and Asia by holding South Korea as a strong-point.

Japanese ruling circles, cherishing a desire to renew their aggression against Korea, are actively joining in the "two Koreas" policy, and the Pak Chong-hui clique has become their vicious executor so that it might realize its dream for long-term power in the imperialists' bosom.

The splittists are scheming to make the artificial division a fait accompli under the signboard of "recognizing reality," and are working to get the "two Korea" plot internationally recognized. This is nothing but an attempt to secure the "cross recognition" of North and South Korea by socialist and capitalist nations--which would only freeze the division--and their entry into the United Nations.

The advocates of "cross recognition" try to justify this concept by raving that international mediation would "ensure peace" in Korea and that this is a "reasonable method" for resolving the problem of Korea's reunification.

The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song has taught: "The Korea question should be solved by the Korean people themselves, without outside interference, and based on the concept of national self-determination."

The fact that tension still exists in Korea and reunification has not been achieved is not due to a lack of "international mediation," but to the Pak Chong-hui clique's treacherous nation-selling maneuvers. The South Korean puppets, who maintain (?power) by clinging to the sleeves of foreign forces and fear reunification are making eyes at some nations, trying to carry through the "cross recognition" plan at any cost. Even slandering the liberation struggle and national sovereignty of our people, who had long been suppressed in the past, today the puppets are plotting to obtain the consent of nations by acting as if they were these nations' "friend."

The splittists, raving that the South Korean puppet clique is an "independent political entity" exercising "sovereignty", are maneuvering to establish relations with nations which maintain state relations only with us. The South Korean puppet clique is in fact a colonial puppet political entity and a dependent regime with no real political or military power of its own. It is not entitled to represent any Korean person and cannot be an object for any independent nation to establish relations with.

Having relations with the South Korean puppet clique only helps it accelerate its maneuvers for division. We should not discuss the matter of recognition of the treacherous South Korean regime, but duly oppose its maneuvers for division, support and encourage the South Korean people's just struggle for democratization of society and for fatherland reunification, and help establish a democratic regime in South Korea so that we can assume the stand of respecting our people's sovereignty and truly seeking peace in Korea and peaceful reunification. This is the demand of the present era.

The splittists have maneuvered to achieve either "simultaneous entry" into the United Nations by North and South Korea or the "unilateral entry" of South Korea, thus justifying the division by applying to divided Korea the international practice by which UN member nations have been recognized as independent states.

Although they claim that this form of entry into the United Nations is aimed at reunifying Korea, it is nothing but a smokescreen to conceal their maneuvers for division. Separate entry would bring international recognition of our country--a homogeneous nation--as two countries, thus perpetuating national division, frustrating our people's desire for reunification, making the situation in Korea unstable and increasing tension and the danger of war.

Our party and the government of the republic have repeatedly made it clear that entry into the United Nations should not come before national reunification, or that entry prior to reunification should at least be accomplished under a single national title and as a single state through the formation of a federal system. This stance reflects the entire Korean people's desire to prevent perpetual division of the country and people, and to achieve reunification. It enjoys the peace-loving world people's hearty support and approval. The splittists at home and abroad will never be able to check this trend of the times, and their maneuvers for division will surely fail.

While these theories of "cross recognition" and entry into the United Nations are aimed at fixing the division, the "balance of power" theory is aimed at supporting the splittist South Korean puppet clique and accelerating aggression and war preparations.

While obstructing reunification, the South Korean puppet clique raves that the most pressing task is to foster strength, keeping pace with the U.S. policy for aggression. It has actually increased the manpower of the puppet armed forces and reinforced the equipment of the armed forces by introducing new munitions into South Korea. The puppet clique plans to introduce several billion dollars worth of weapons into South Korea in 4 to 5 years as "compensatory measures" for the phased withdrawal of ground troops. It has held behind-the-scenes negotiations to try to strengthen military cooperation with the Japanese ruling circles. It has also maneuvered to establish a cooperative South Korea-U.S.-Japan security body. The puppet clique raves that this dangerous policy is necessary to preserve peace in Korea and to provide "preconditions for reunification." It is brazen to talk about peace while increasing military capabilities and to preach peaceful reunification while seeking a confrontation of strength. This will only deepen the division and lead the situation to the brink of war.

The puppet clique's maneuvers to perpetuate division have been revealed in its call for the signing of a "nonaggression pact" and for "coexistence" of the North and the South. The call for a "treaty" among a homogeneous people on the same territory with aggressive forces--a factor for war--still remaining and the call for "coexistence" is not one raised by Koreans, but one advanced for others.

These maneuvers by the splittists at home and abroad run totally counter to our people's and the peace-loving world people's unanimous desire for Korea's reunification. Our people, labelling the splittists' maneuvers to divide the country and people forever as criminal acts insulting our people and violating and trampling underfoot the nation's dignity and sovereignty, resolutely denounce these acts in the name of the nation.

Ours is a homogeneous people, and our country cannot be divided. Our people will never tolerate any maneuver to fix national division.

The United States should repeal its "two Koreas" policy, immediately withdraw all its aggressive forces from South Korea in accordance with the UN resolution, stop its interference in our country's internal affairs and take its hands off Korea. The Japanese ruling circles should stop obstructing our reunification and abetting the South Korean puppet clique's maneuvering for division.

It would be a miscalculation for the Pak Chong-hui clique to try to prolong its life under the protection of foreign bayonets by fixing national division, thus continuing to sacrifice South Korea as a colonial military base for foreign forces. Those who reject the people's desire for reunification and are absorbed in maneuvering for division will only meet a shameful, ruinous fate.

The struggle for Korea's reunification is linked with the struggle for peace in Asia and the world. With Korea's reunification and with Korea as a single state, we can eliminate the cause of division and war in this region and preserve and consolidate peace in Asia and the world. Those who truly desire peace and Korea's peaceful reunification, no matter what their nationality--should not respond to the maneuvers to fabricate "two Koreas" by the splittists at home and abroad. Our people firmly believe that the governments and peoples of socialist nations, nonaligned countries and all other nations which respect people's sovereignty and peace will resolutely oppose and reject all the splittists' maneuvers to create "two Koreas" and threaten peace by advocating "cross recognition," entry into the United Nations and "balance of power," and that they will actively help the Korean people attain reunification by themselves in an independent and peaceful manner.

We especially believe that the U.S. and Japanese peoples, who understand more correctly than anyone else the tragedy our people have experienced due to their governments' erroneous policies, will zealously extend international solidarity with our just struggle for reunification of the divided fatherland and against perpetual division.

Reunification achieved by our people themselves, in a democratic and peaceful manner without any type of interference whatsoever by foreign forces, is the consistent stand and policy of our party and the government of the republic. Upholding the three-point principle and the five-point policy for fatherland reunification set forth by the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, we will continue to devote all our efforts to the independent and peaceful reunification of the country. No one will be able to curb our people's resolve to resecure the people's severed ties by attaining fatherland reunification, and to make the people prosper. No power will be able to block our people's vigorous advance toward completing their great task.

ROK Hypocrisy Denounced

OW081127Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 1010 GMT 8 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Pyongyang, February 8 (KCNA)--NODONG SINMUN today in a commentary denounces the Pak Chong-hui puppet clique for peddling again South Korea's "separate UN membership." The commentary says:

The puppet clique is now vociferating that positive "diplomatic activities" should be conducted this year to create public opinion and a climate for "separate UN membership."

It is reported that the puppet foreign minister plans to visit soon the United Nations to meet ambassadors of the United States and other "friendly countries" to it and hold confabs with them about steps for attaining the criminal aim. This clearly proves that the South Korean puppet clique is craftily working to freeze the division of the country and create "two Koreas" through the United Nations under the patronage of their imperialist masters. This is an intolerable challenge to the entire Korean people and the world peace-loving people who want to see Korea reunified.

The commentary goes on: When the United Nations took a step favourable to Korea's reunification the South Korean puppets spoke ill of the United Nations, claiming that it was "incompetent" and "weak." But they are now making desperate efforts to enter the United Nations. This brings into bold relief their intention to use the United Nations in achieving their splitist end. The "simultaneous UN membership" for both North and South Korea and South Korea's "separate UN membership" spelt out by the domestic and foreign splitists are intended to perpetuate Korea's division and manufacture "two Koreas" through the United Nations.

Saying that the Pak Chong-hui puppet clique is not qualified to enter the UN, the commentary notes that the Pak Chong-hui puppet regime is nothing but a marionette regime which cannot exist even a day without the protection of the imperialist bayonets, and stands rejected and isolated from within and without for its treacheries. It is foolish of this clique to try hard to enter the UN, and this is an insult to this organisation.

In conclusion the commentary stresses: If the Pak Chong-hui puppet clique enters the UN, the split of Korea will be fixed, our people's desire for the reunification of the country will not be realized, rendering the situation unstable. It will only increase the tension and the danger of war in Korea.

Our country, being split, must in no way enter the UN. It should do so after the reunification or as one state under the single national title at least after a confederation is set up.

The South Korean puppet clique had better give up their foolish attempt to lengthen existence by manufacturing "two Koreas" in reliance upon foreign forces, and deport themselves with discretion.

RADIO AIRS ABRIDGED CHINESE EDITORIAL ON DPRK MEMORANDUM

SK090128Y [Editorial Report SK/WA] Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean at 2200 GMT on 8 February carries excerpts of the editorial appearing in the 6 February issue of Peking's PEOPLE'S DAILY, entitled "Korean Cause of Independent and Peaceful Reunification Will Be Victorious."

The Pyongyang radio version is identical to the text of the editorial as transmitted by Peking NCNA in English and published on page A 3 of the International Affairs section of the 7 February People's Republic of China DAILY REPORT, except that it omits the passage beginning on the fifth line of the second paragraph on page A 4..."However, it is noteworthy that that superpower..." and ending on the fifth line of the next paragraph "...integral part of this struggle."

CONTINUING COVERAGE OF AS-SADAT ENVOY'S VISIT

Meeting With Pak Song-chol

SK090207Y Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2200 GMT 8 Feb 78 SK

[Text] Comrade Pak Song-chol met in Pyongyang on 8 February with Muhammed Hasan Muhammed at-Tuhami, special envoy of President Muhammed Anwar as-Sadat of the Arab Republic of Egypt, vice prime minister of the presidency of the republic and political adviser to the president, who is now visiting our country. Also attending the meeting were Comrade Ho Tam and personages concerned including Yi Chong-mok, from our side, and the Egyptian special envoy, his party and Muhammed Zaki al-Fiqqi, Egyptian charge d'affairs ad interim in our country, from the other side.

At the meeting each side informed the other of their country's situation, and exchanged views on matters of common interest. The meeting proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

Mansudae Theater Performance

OW091059Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 1005 GMT 9 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Pyongyang February 9 (KCNA)--The song and dance tale "The Song of Paradise" was performed at the Mansudae art theatre on the evening of February 8 in honour of the special envoy of President Muhammed Anwar as-Sadat of the Arab Republic of Egypt on a visit to our country.

Invited to the performance were the special envoy of the president of the Arab Republic of Egypt Muhammed Hasan Muhammed at-Tuhami, vice-prime minister at the presidency of the Arab Republic of Egypt and political adviser of the ARE president and his party and Muhammed Zaki al-Fiqqi, charge d'affaires ad interim of the Egyptian Embassy in Pyongyang. Comrade Ho Tam and personage concerned Yi Chong-mok as well as working people in the city appreciated the show together with the guests.

The song and dance tale "The Song of Paradise" was acclaimed by the guests and audience for its high ideological and artistic value. After the performance the guests presented a floral basket to the artists congratulating them on their successful art presentation. Prior to the performance the guests were shown round facilities of the Mansudae art theatre.

Details on 7 Feb Banquet

SK081210Y Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean 2300 GMT 7 Feb 78 SK

[Text] The DPRK government arranged a banquet at the People's Cultural Palace on the evening of 7 February, to honor the visiting special envoy of Egyptian President as-Sadat. Invited to the banquet were the special envoy of the Egyptian president, Deputy Prime Minister for Presidential Affairs and political advisor to the Egyptian president Hasan at-Tuhami and his party, and the Egyptian charge d'affaires to the DPRK Muhammad Zaki al-Fiqqi. Comrade Pak Song-chol, Comrade Ho Tam and personage concerned Yi Chong-mok were present at the banquet.

Comrade Pak Song-chol delivered the first speech. Extending a warm welcome to the guests visiting our country in connection with the special envoy's noble mission, he said his excellency President as-Sadat's current dispatch of his special envoy to our country is a clear manifestation of the lofty respect and trust of the president himself and the Egyptian people regarding the respected and beloved leader of our people, Comrade Kim Il-song, and is clear evidence of the daily solidifying friendly and cooperative relations between our two countries.

Saying that the two countries have a long, fine tradition of supporting and cooperating with one another in the common struggle against imperialism, he stressed that the friendly relations between the two countries are precious and solid. More than anything else this is because such relations are based on the warm friendship forged between the respected and beloved leader of our people, Comrade Kim Il-song, and the respected leader of the Egyptian people, his excellency Anwar as-Sadat.

Noting that the fraternal Egyptian people have persistently waged an arduous struggle to defend the nation's independence and sovereignty and to oppose imperialists and the Israeli aggressors, he said we always stand at the side of the Egyptian people and will extend active support and encouragement to their just struggle in the future also.

He noted that today the attention of people throughout the world is focused on the Middle East issue--one of the important international issues--and that the region is (?a dangerous one of possible war), which seriously endangers world peace and security.

Noting that war has been ignited four times in the Middle East, that a state of neither peace nor war persists and that peoples in the region suffer the constant danger of war, he emphasized that Middle East issues require urgent solution.

He said that (?the Egyptian people) are today working to eliminate the threat of war in the region and to bring about peace, by resolving at an early date the Middle East issues which have caused great suffering to the Arab peoples.

Noting that there could be many ways of settling Middle East issues, he said we think the issues should be settled in accordance with the entire Arab peoples' desire, on the condition that sovereignty of the Arab peoples--no matter what measures may be adopted--is respected.

He said that to settle the Middle East problem the Israel aggressors must be withdrawn from all Arab territories which they are illegally occupying, and the lawful rights of the Palestinian people--including their right to self-determination and to establish an independent state--must be guaranteed. He pointed out that this is the unanimous intent and demand of the world peace-loving peoples and the entire Arab peoples, including the Egyptian people.

Denouncing the fact that despite the peace-loving efforts by the Egyptian Government, the Zionists have not abandoned their expansionist ambition, not withdrawn from the forcibly occupied Arab soil and do not want to recognize the lawful rights of the Palestinian people, he said that if all Arab nations systematically merge national interests with the entire Arab peoples' interests and firmly unite and struggle for the common objectives, Middle East issues will be settled in accordance with the Arab peoples' intent and desire and in favor of their [word indistinct] cause.

He mentioned that our people, with the honor and happiness of having again elected the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song president of the nation, are vigorously advancing to accomplish the tasks of the first year of the second 7-year plan--the grand master plan for socialist construction delineated by the great leader.

Noting that the foreign and domestic splittists are tenaciously scheming to create "two Koreas" for the purpose of permanently dividing our fatherland, he thanked the Egyptian Government for steadily extending support and encouragement for our people's struggle to have U.S. forces withdraw from South Korea and to attain the nation's independent and peaceful reunification.

In conclusion, he expressed his conviction that the Egyptian Government and people will continue to extend active support and encouragement for our people's fatherland reunification cause.

Then, Hasan at-Tuhami made a speech. He said he was very happy to have come to Korea, a socialist power which has a long history, and to meet with our people.

Noting that the Korean people had created a great miracle in a short period, he said the Egyptian people know many things about the fraternal Korean people's struggle waged for prosperity and progress and for improving their welfare. Noting that the Korean people are carrying out great construction for [word indistinct] and for the progress and prosperity of future generations, he said that through such construction the Korean people show other peoples that they truly desire peace.

He said that the DPRK holds a high position in the world, attained through its arduous efforts. Noting that it was President Kim Il-song who made this achievement possible, he stressed that this was the result of the president's own struggle, his own political theory and philosophy.

Noting that our country has become a (?school) the world looks up to, he said the Egyptians admire and respect President Kim Il-song and cherish their friendship with the Korean people. We have come to Korea as special envoys of President as-Sadat to pay our respects and express our admiration for President Kim Il-song, to extend appreciation for the Korean people's friendly and honorable stand toward the Egyptian people and to greet the Korean people, he said.

He also said that he and his associates had come to Korea to discuss some issues, particularly those involving the Middle East. Egypt's support for Palestine and the Arab peoples' cause in the Middle East stems from Egypt's respect for and sense of justice in regard to peoples of the region.

Commenting on the Egyptian people's great triumph won in the fight against the enemy in 1973, he said they are waging a peaceful struggle through the method of political talks. Noting that the Egyptian people never regard this peaceful struggle as less important than the military struggle, he said the Egyptians are struggling for peace in two directions. He pointed out that the peace they demand is a peace based on restored rights.

Noting that his excellency President Muhammed Anwar as-Sadat boldly visited Jerusalem, he said that Jerusalem is their land which has been forcibly occupied, and that the talks held in Jerusalem were conducted from strength and not weakness.

He said that, though sacrifices have been made for peace, the enemy is still maintaining a stubborn stand. He said that the lawful rights of the Palestinian people must be restored and the land taken back.

Saying that peace in contemporary times must be based on justice, he said he could not express in words his (?happiness) over having us as intimate brothers and friends.

The attendants at the banquet drank toasts to the solid friendship and solidarity between the Korean and Egyptian peoples, to the good health and long life of the great leader of our people Comrade Kim Il-song and to the good health and long life of the outstanding leader of the Egyptian people President Muhammed Anwar as-Sadat.

The banquet proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

DETAILS ON POLISH TRADE PROTOCOL

LD081008Y Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish 0200 GMT 8 Feb 78 LD

[Text] A protocol on trade between Poland and the DPRK was signed yesterday in Pyongyang. Among other things Poland will export ship installations, machinery and equipment for the coal mining industry as well as sulfur and various other products of the chemical industry in exchange for Korean magnesite, chemicals, consumer goods and china.

CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPIRE SPECIAL ENVOY FETED AT BANQUET

OW081135Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 1036 GMT 8 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Pyongyang February 8 (KCNA)--The Korean people firmly support the progressive policies of the Central African Government and warmly hail the successes gained by the Central African people in the struggle for the development and prosperity of the country.

Comrade Kong Chin-tae stressed this at a banquet arranged by the Administration Council on February 7 in welcome of the visit to our country of special envoy of Emperor Bokassa the First of the Central African Empire, Fidele Mandaba Bornou, minister of state of the Imperial Court and juridical adviser to the emperor, and his companion.

He pointed to the continued, excellent development of friendly and cooperative relations between the Korean and Central African peoples.

Our people follow with keen interest the struggle of the Central African people who have risen vigorously to build a new life, the speaker noted. He referred to the big successes achieved by the Central African Government in developing the country's economy and improving the people's livelihood by conducting the "Bokassa operation."

Dwelling on our people's struggle for the independent and peaceful reunification of the country, he held that the U.S. imperialists occupying the southern half of the country must stop at once the criminal manoeuvres to keep our country divided for ever as "two Koreas" and withdraw without delay their aggression troops from South Korea taking along nuclear weapons and other mass destruction weapons.

In his speech Fidele Mandaba Bornou said that he came to Korea with the feelings of friendship as an envoy sent by His Majesty Bokassa the First to the great leader of the Korean people Marshal Kim Il-song. I will make efforts to further develop cooperation between the two countries through this visit, he added.

Noting that the Central African people follow with great admiration the efforts made by the great Korean people to develop the country and consolidate the independent economy, he said: We saw this first hand in Korea.

We sincerely extend warmest regards to the great leader of the Korean people, Marshal Kim Il-song and to your courageous people and government.

The attendants of the banquet drank toasts to the friendship and solidarity between the Korean people and the people of the Central African Empire, to the good health and long life of the great leader of our people Comrade Kim Il-song and to the good health and long life of respected His Imperial Majesty Bokassa the First of the Central African Empire.

The banquet proceeded in a friendly atmosphere.

Attends Acrobatic Show

OW091057Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 1003 GMT 9 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Pyongyang February 9 (KCNA)--Fidele Mandaba Bornou, minister of state of the Imperial Court of the Central African Empire and juridical adviser to Emperor Bokassa the First, who is a special envoy of the emperor, and his companion Henri Koba, secretary of state of the Imperial Court, appreciated an acrobatic show at the Pyongyang Acrobatic Theatre on February 8.

Personages concerned Kim Kyong-yon and Kim Hyong-yul and working people in the city saw it together with the guests. The show was acclaimed by the guests and spectators.

CUBA'S CASTRO REPLIES TO KIM IL-SONG MESSAGE

SK090339Y Pyongyang KCNA in English 0332 GMT 9 Feb 78 SK

[Text] Pyongyang February 9 (KCNA)--The great leader Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Workers Party of Korea and president of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, received a message from Comrade Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba and president of the State Council of the Republic of Cuba, in reply to his message of greetings

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sent on the occasion of the 19th anniversary of the victory of the Cuban revolution. The reply message reads:

Comrade Kim Il-song, general secretary of the Central Committee, Workers Party of Korea;
President, Democratic People's Republic of Korea
Pyongyang

I express thanks in the name of the party, government and people for your friendly message of greetings sent on the occasion of the 19th anniversary of the victory of our revolution.

Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the Central Committee, Communist Party of Cuba
President of the State Council, Republic of Cuba
Havana, January 31, 1978

BRIEFS

GDR TRADE COUNCILLOR--Pyongyang February 8--Wolfgang Stepke, trade councillor of the Embassy of the German Democratic Republic in Pyongyang, hosted a cocktail party at his embassy on February 7 in connection with the opening of the 1978 Leipzig spring fair. Pang Tae-yul and other personages concerned were invited to the cocktail party. Present on the occasion was Franz Everhartz, ambassador of the German Democratic Republic to our country. Speeches were made at the cocktail party. It proceeded in a friendly atmosphere. [Text] [Pyongyang KCNA in English 0344 GMT 8 Feb 78 SK]

DELEGATIONS RETURN, ARRIVE--Pyongyang February 8--The delegation of the Academy of Sciences of our country returned home on February 7 by plane after visiting Czechoslovakia and Hungary. A delegation of the Polish travel office "Orbis" headed by its vice-director, Andrzej Szuldrzynski, arrived in Pyongyang by plane on the same day. [Text] [Pyongyang KCNA English 0342 GMT 8 Feb 78 SK]

IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENTS--Pyongyang, February 6--There are in the DPRK more than 1,500 reservoirs, irrigation channels with a total length of 40,000 km and more than 16,100 water pumping stations and many other irrigation setups. During the 6-year plan 117 reservoirs including Lakes Manpung-ho, Unpa-ho and Yontan reservoir and Pyongwon reservoir were built to increase the nation's water storing capacity 1.5 times, and 8,850 water pumping stations constructed to expand water pumping capacity 1.8 times. During this period 400,000 chongbo of non-paddy fields were brought under irrigation by various methods. [Pyongyang KCNA in English 1010 GMT 6 Feb 78 OW]

RAILWAY ELECTRIFICATION--Pyongyang, February 8--In the DPRK, 380 kilometres of railway lines with steep gradients and heavy freight traffic were newly switched over to electric traction during the 6-year plan. The trunk lines and many branch lines were electrified in our country. As a result, the proportion of electric traction to the aggregate railway freight haulage went up to 66 percent. A total of 471 kilometres of railway lines were newly built and a number of narrow-gauge railways turned into broad-gauge ones. In the second 7-year plan period, the volume of railway freight haulage will increase 1.7 times, freight carriage by motor lorries 4 times and cargo shipment 4.4 times respectively. Also during this period 1,600 kilometres of railways will be electrified to raise the proportion of electric traction in the overall railway freight transport to 87 percent. [Pyongyang KCNA in English 1535 GMT 8 Feb 78 OW]

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THREE-MILE LIMIT IN KOREA STRAIT TO BE ESTABLISHED

SK090058Y Seoul HAPTONG in English 0053 GMT 9 Feb 78 SK

[Text] Seoul, Feb 9 (HAPTONG)--The Korean Government has decided to apply a three-mile territorial water limit to the Korean Strait, a government source said today. The Seoul Government has long studied various alternatives in applying a territorial water limit to the Korean Strait, which are consistent with international practices and exercise of the sovereign right. Under the decision, the scope of the territorial water limit to the Korean Strait is a minimum distance of three miles from the southern tip of the southernmost island of Cheju as a starting point. Japan also applies a three-mile territorial water limit to the Korean Strait. As a result, the bottom part of the strait is 17.2 navigational miles.

NDP BRANDS OPINION SURVEY AS PROPAGANDA PLOY

SK090250Y Seoul HAPTONG in English 0238 GMT 9 Feb 78 SK

[Text] Seoul, Feb 9 (HAPTONG)--The major opposition New Democratic Party today branded a public opinion survey published by the Culture-Information Ministry as a propaganda ploy filled with falsehood. The party disputed the survey result showing that more than 88 per cent of the population are of the middle class in terms of income. This result is untenable in view of the wide income gap existing between the rich and poor in this country, a party spokesman said.

He added the criteria for selecting 2,000 sample households for the survey were in the first place ambiguous. The Culture and Information Ministry Wednesday published a public opinion poll conducted on 2,000 sample households on a wide range of domestic and world issues, which showed, among others, that a majority of those polled said the standard of living has improved a great deal compared with 10 years ago.

KOREA HERALD COMMENTS ON DPRK MEMORANDUM

SK082359Y Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English 9 Feb 78 p 4 SK

[Editorial: "North's Self-Contradiction"]

[Text] Communist North Korea has launched a campaign of distorting this republic's foreign policies for peace with a malicious intent to misleading international public opinion on the Korean question. The logic Pyongyang employs in distorting our peace-oriented foreign policies is so utterly self-contradictory that it is not difficult to discern the subversive and double-dealing motive of such a propaganda offensive. Recently, the North Korean regime issued a memorandum which was broadcast in English on its radio system apparently for foreign consumption. The memorandum accused this republic and the U.S. Government of pursuing "policies aimed at perpetuating the division of the Korean Peninsula."

The North Korean memorandum is pointing at our government's policy for peace and unification declared on June 23, 1973, which called for, among others, conclusion of a nonaggression agreement between the South and the North and simultaneous entry of South and North Korea into the United Nations.

Our government put forth this proposal out of its genuine wish to mitigate and defuse the ever-worsening military tensions between the South and North as practical steps toward the eventual peaceful unification of the Korean Peninsula. Pyongyang is accusing this republic of being after the perpetuation of division of the Korean Peninsula, but it has taken no meaningful or workable initiatives toward the peaceful unification of the Korean Peninsula. In fact, the radical communist regime in the North has systematically followed policies aimed at aggravating conditions for the peaceful unification of the Korean Peninsula. Cases of North Korea's double-dealing perpetrated under the guise of peace are too numerous to cite. On July 4, 1972, Pyongyang agreed to open a dialogue with the South in keeping with the worldwide trend toward the reduction of tensions. The underlying purpose of this dialogue as specified in the South-North Joint communique was to mitigate mistrust and alleviate tensions between South and North Korea with a view to creating a climate for the peaceful unification of the Korean Peninsula. After attending a number of meetings held alternately in Seoul and Pyongyang, North Korea unilaterally suspended the dialogue about one year later for reasons not fully explained.

While blaring slogans for peaceful unification, the communist regime in Pyongyang has continued to build up its military capability of an overtly offensive nature. Moreover, it has made fervent efforts in the international diplomatic arena to assert its existence as an independent and separate entity, in gross contradiction to its externally loudly-preached policy of one Korea. Pyongyang is opposing joint admission of South and North Korea into the United Nations and international organizations but it joined special agencies of the United Nations and international organizations and is trying to enter other world organizations whereever possible. Twice in 1949 and 1951, North Korea also applied for a membership in the United Nations through the Soviet Union.

What is believed to have prompted Pyongyang to issue such a memorandum is its growing anxiety over the fact that our peace-oriented and realistic foreign policy is winning greater understanding and support in the international community of nations, especially nonaligned countries. The communist radicals in the north have been sharpening their knife all along to carry out their thinly-concealed scheme to subjugate the South by force of arms. The increasing recognition of the propriety of our peace-oriented foreign policy by the international communists will dampen objective conditions favorable to the North's southward military adventure, and Pyongyang is thus trying to discredit this republic in the world. But its stereotyped propaganda based on self-contradictory arguments will only reveal the double-facedness of itself to the world. If Pyongyang is truly after the peaceful unification of Korea, it has to resume the dialogue with its brethren in the South and join in practical initiatives, including joint admission to the United Nations, to consolidate peace on our peninsula.

RPR RADIO SCORES ROK RESPONSE TO MEMORANDUM

SK091028Y Voice of the Revolutionary Party for Reunification [Clandestine] in Korean
1000 GMT 8 Feb 78 SK

[Text] The South Korean Foreign Ministry, saying that a real precondition for peaceful reunification is preservation of peace and so forth, yesterday made absurd remarks that the "simultaneous entry" of the North and South or even the unilateral entry of one side into the United Nations is for the good of mankind.

Slanderizing and defaming the DPRK Government's memorandum of 1 February denouncing the foreign and domestic splittists' scheme to create "two Koreas" and perpetuate the division of the Korean Peninsula, the Pak Chong-hui clique reiterated sophistries aimed at perpetuating the division.

The Pak Chong-hui clique's repeated insistence on the "simultaneous entry" of the North and South or the unilateral entry of the clique into the United Nations is not aimed at reunification of the Korean Peninsula, but at perpetuating its division.

The Pak Chong-hui clique clamors as if their entry into the United Nations is a practical measure for the reunification of the nation. However, this is nothing but a sophistry to justify the perpetuation of the nation's division. The clique's real intention in entering the United Nations is to leave the DPRK no choice but to join the United Nations.

It is ridiculous for the Pak Chong-hui puppet clique, which has no qualification to the United Nations and is isolated at home and abroad, to kick up a racket about entering the United Nations. If the Pak Chong-hui clique's plot for two Koreas committed through the United Nations were tolerated, our homogeneous nation would be internationally recognized as two nations and thus the nation's division would be permanently fixed. As a result, the earnest desire of the masses of the North and South for reunification would not be realized, the division of the nation would continue forever, the situation of the Korean Peninsula would continue to be unstable and tension and danger of war would prevail.

Nonetheless, the Pak Chong-hui clique is daily intensifying its scheme for the permanent division of the nation and is committing every desperate plot to realize at any cost the simultaneous entry of the North and South or the unilateral entry of the clique into the United Nations, which is rejected and denounced at home and abroad. The Pak Chong-hui clique's scheme for "two Koreas" is an intolerable insult to our masses and the world peace-loving peoples who unanimously desire reunification of the Korean Peninsula, and is a reckless violation of the national prestige and sovereignty. Therefore, the clique will face stronger denunciation at home and abroad.

MINISTER URGES SPIRITUAL EDUCATION FOR YOUTH

SK090239Y Seoul HAPTONG in English 0235 GMT 9 Feb 78 SK

[Text] Seoul, Feb 9 (HAPTONG)--Yi Yong-hui, minister of the National Unification Board, said today that one of the urgent tasks facing the nation is to give the coming generation a spiritual education aimed at planting a correct sense of national mission among the younger people. "As the North Korean communist regime continues to destroy the homogeneity of the people without abandoning its scheme to communize the whole country by military means, the prospects of territorial unification are not altogether bright," Minister Yi said in his report to President Pak on the board's policy directions for the year ahead.

To effectively meet a situation in which we might hand over the national unification task to the coming generation, minister said, thorough preparations should be worked out. Therefore, he said, it is urgent to arm the younger generation with a firmer sense of national mission. The board will continue to push the grand national unification planning work in cooperation with academic circles and study various measures to meet any possible changes in the non-military fields in the South-North confrontation, the minister said.

VRPR ON HYONGMYONG CHOSON FEBRUARY EDITION CONTENTS

SK071030Y Voice of the Revolutionary Party for Reunification [Clandestine] in Korean to South Korea 1010 GMT 6 Feb 78 SK

[Text] The 1 February edition of HYONGMYONG CHOSON, an organ of the Central Committee of the Revolutionary Party for Reunification, has been published. HYONGMYONG CHOSON reported on the front page that the 16th plenary session of the 5th KWP Central Committee was held on 28 January under the chairmanship of the great sun of our people, Comrade Kim Il-song, Pyongyang, a revolutionary capital. The organ also reported that the (?19 April comrades association) has, on the new year, mailed a message entitled "We Wish Good Health and Longevity to the Great Sun of Our People, Comrade Kim Il-song" to people in Seoul and Kyonggi Province.

An editorial under the title "We Denounce the Brutalities of the U.S. Troops," was carried in the organ. And an article on the National Agricultural Congress is published on the second page under the title "The Great Sun of Our People Comrade Kim Il-song Delivered a Speech at the National Agricultural Congress." It notes that the congress was held from 23 to 27 January. On the third page, HYONGMYONG CHOSON has a piece entitled "Fatherly Love With Regard To (?Preserving) the 'Chronical of the Yi Dynasty'" on the great leader Comrade Kim Il-song's desire to preserve and hand on the "Chronicle of the Yi Dynasty," one of our people's most valued cultural treasures.

The organ, under the heading of "A Paradise Created Under the Banner of the Advance Guard," carried an article by reporters of the Revolutionary Party for Reunification who made a survey visit to Mount Wangjae in (Onsu) county, North Hamgyong Province. And under the title "Let Us Struggle To Win Freedom of Speech", HYONGMYONG CHOSON on the fourth page carried the joint statement issued by the Tong-a struggle committee for freedom of speech and the Choson struggle committee for freedom of speech. On the fifth page, an article about the profiteering of oil companies through price hikes, discloses the inside story of the Pak Chong-hui clique in connection with these increases. The organ published an article on its sixth page denouncing the Pak Chong-hui clique's policy about female [passage indistinct]. The edition also carried an article with pictures introducing the happy lives of North Korean women entitled "Blessed North Korean Women". In addition, HYONGMYONG CHOSON carried a message commemorating the 30th anniversary of the 7 February national salvation struggle for independence with a headline saying that reality calls for an anti-U.S. national salvation struggle by all the people, and various other articles.

VRPR CONDEEMS U.S. MILITARY ACTIONS AS 'PROVOCATIONS'

SK091358Y Voice of the Revolutionary Party for Reunification [Clandestine] in Korean to South Korea 1000 GMT 9 Feb 78 SK

[Unattributed talk: "Intolerable Criminal Acts Threatening and Trampling Peace and Security on the Korean Peninsula"]

[Text] Referring to a non-existent "threat of southward invasion," the U.S. Secretary of Defense on 7 February raved that the South Korean armed forces should be reinforced. Prior to this, on 6 February, U.S. Army Chief of Staff Rogers, saying that the withdrawal of U.S. ground troops from South Korea is "not appropriate for the time being," clamored that the United States is keeping six divisions, including three (?heavy) divisions, in a state of readiness to meet any contingency anywhere in the world, including Korea, and that joint U.S.-South Korean military exercises have been conducted to practice moving U.S. troops to South Korea.

Prior to this, on 5 February, the U.S. Army Headquarters announced that various military spare parts and about 6,000 tons of ammunition will be shipped to South Korea in fiscal year 1979, and that one infantry battalion stationed in South Korea will be reorganized into a tank battalion equipped with 66 new M-60 tanks in this fiscal year. This blatantly reveals the hidden intentions to maintain the division of the Korean Peninsula with arms and to invade North Korea. This is another intolerable criminal act trampling underfoot and threatening peace and security on the Korean Peninsula.

As has been disclosed, the U.S. imperialists have ignored just public opinion at home and abroad demanding the immediate withdrawal of U.S. forces from South Korea for peace on the Korean Peninsula and the country's peaceful reunification, and have continuously and frantically stepped up reinforcement of their military capability, behind the curtain of discussions of a troop withdrawal, for the purpose of provoking another war. They turned over great quantities of various types of military equipment, including 48 up-to-date helicopters and 15 armored cars, to the Pak Chong-hui clique at the end of last year under the cloak of "implementing the defense commitment" to South Korea and of taking "compensatory measures" for the troop withdrawal. They also promised that they will sell 341 air-to-air missiles to the clique.

Making bellicose and absurd remarks that the United States bears a heavy responsibility to maintain its military capability in Asia, including South Korea, and that U.S. forces will remain in South Korea after the 1980's, the U.S. imperialists have stepped up their maneuvers to provoke another war since the beginning of this year. They are maneuvering to deploy more than 270 aircraft, including F-15 Eagles, F-4 Phantoms and A-7's, to South Korea and the western Pacific in fiscal year 1978. Thus, they are continuously shipping greater quantities of lethal weapons and military equipment to South Korea. In addition, the U.S. imperialists plan to provide \$277 million in military aid to the Pak Chong-hui clique in this fiscal year, abetting the clique in provoking another war. They also plan to give \$336 million worth of military and economic aid to the clique in fiscal 1979. They dispatched eight up-to-date F-15 Eagle fighters to South Korea on 20 January to kick up a war rackets called "Operation Eagle." They raved that they will dispatch many up-to-date fighters in February and March to kick up war exercise rackets.

Such frantic U.S. imperialist maneuvers to provoke another war behind the curtain of discussing a troop withdrawal is aimed at converting South Korea into their colonial military base forever by permanently dividing our country and at invading North Korea. This is a blatant challenge to our people's and world peace-loving peoples' desire for peace on the Korean Peninsula and for the country's peaceful reunification, and is an intolerable criminal act violating and threatening peace and security on the Korean Peninsula and in Asia.

We strongly oppose and indignantly denounce the U.S. imperialist aggressors for more blatantly maneuvering to provoke another war. The U.S. imperialist aggressors should immediately stop their maneuvers to provoke another war and immediately withdraw from South Korea, taking with them all the lethal weapons they have introduced into this land.

BRIEFS

KCIA OFFICE--Seoul, Feb 6--The Korean Central Intelligence Agency said today that it has set up a consultation office here dealing with overall matters involving communism. It said the office will handle surrender of North Korean spies and information about them. It would also comply with civic consultation on communism in general, it said. [Text] [Seoul HAPTONG in English 0305 GMT 6 Feb 78 SK]

POACHERS CAPTURED WITHIN TERRITORIAL WATERS

BK051510Y Hong Kong AFP in English 1445 GMT 5 Feb 78 BK

[Text] Rangoon, Feb 5 (AFP)--Burmese authorities yesterday captured two foreign fishing vessels with a combined crew of 15 near Mergui Archipelago off the southern Burma coast, it was reported by the MYANMA ALIN today. The two fishing vessels originating from Singapore were captured by Burmese naval patrol while poaching within Burma territorial waters. The two fishing boats carried total of Singapore crew members, according to the report. [sentence as received] The newspaper said that authorities also captured two small local boats and 12 people collecting birds nests from the islands around the archipelago, to be sold in neighbouring Penang where they are much in demand.

VOPB CITES 1977 BATTLE STATISTICS FOR EAST, NORTH, NORTHEAST

BK031238Y Voice of the People of Burma [Clandestine] in Burmese to Burma 1200 GMT 2 Feb 78 BK

[Text] During the period 1 January to 31 December 1977, the people and the people's army fought 776 large and small battles in the eastern, northern and northeastern regions of Burma and annihilated the enemy. In these battles 1,735 enemy soldiers were killed, 2,336 were wounded, 171 were taken prisoner and 10 defected to the people's side. Thus a total of 4,252 enemy soldiers were put out of action. A total of 552 assorted weapons, including 2 57mm, 1 75mm and 2 76mm field guns; 167 mines; 315 grenades; more than 200,000 rounds of assorted ammunition; 9 generators; 9 walkie-talkies; 11 radio sets; and other military supplies were seized by the people's army. In addition to this, the people's army attacked and destroyed 22 military vehicles and 1 military motorcycle and also shot down two enemy fighter planes.

BRIEFS

AMBASSADORS TO FINLAND, HUNGARY--The Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced that the president of Burma has appointed U Kyaw Khaing, ambassador to the Soviet Union, to concurrently serve as ambassador to Finland; and U Maung Maung, ambassador to Czechoslovakia, to serve concurrently as ambassador to Hungary. [Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 0130 GMT 6 Feb 78 BK]

WATERCRAFT CONSTRUCTION--The Dala dockyard under the Water Transport Corporation has constructed 51 types of watercraft since 1963. Among the watercraft were the 2 "U.D." cargo carriers; 4 landing craft; 2 catamarans; 4 51-feet self-propelled wooden-hulled boats; 3 40-feet watercraft; 1 ferry boat; 9 self-propelled cargo boats; 2 self-propelled wooden-hulled cargo barges; 2 cargo barges; 5 500-ton oil barges; 3 tug boats; 7 250-ton cargo-barges; 1 pusher boat; 1 "Z"-craft; 1 "aung-kema" type cargo and passenger boat; 3 "aung" type cargo and passenger boats; and 1 coastal boat. [Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 5 Feb 78 BK]

DPRK TECHNICIAN TEAM--A 13-member technician team from the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, headed by Director of the Ministry of Chemical Industry's Technical Department Mr (Tae Yung-ho), arrived in Rangoon on 8 February. The delegation was received at Mingaladon Airport by DPRK Ambassador to Burma Mr Ma Chang-chol and the embassy staff; Managing Director of the Industrial Services Corporation Col Maung Ohn; Director General of Central Research Organization Dr Mehn Thet San; and Managing Director of the Paper and Chemical Industries Corporation Lt Col Kyaw Khin. The DPRK technicians will hold talks with Burmese experts on implementation of a project to construct a mill to produce synthetic fibers from bamboo. [Text] [Rangoon Domestic Service in Burmese 1330 GMT 8 Feb 78 BK]

CONTINUED FIGHTING ON SRV BORDER REPORTED

BK090022Y Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 2322 GMT 8 Feb 78 BK

[Text] Vietnamese enemy forces were smashed and totally driven from Cambodian territory by the heroic revolutionary army and Cambodian people on 6 January 1978; however, since then the Vietnamese enemy has continued criminal activities and attempts to encroach upon, violate and swallow up Cambodian territory. They have carried out harassments and provocations along the border, including military assaults, infiltration of spies and commandoes to carry out espionage and subversion, shelling our territory from their territory which has taken the lives and destroyed the property of our people along the border, and so on.

However, all the criminal, abominable, vicious and dark activities and maneuvers of the Vietnamese enemy have been successively smashed and defeated by our heroic Cambodian Revolutionary Army. The army continues to successfully defend our territory and people to the present day.

Following are the facts:

1. On the night of 4-5 February, more than a battalion of Vietnamese forces, supported by artillery, penetrated into the Phum Thmei and Vat Prasat areas, (Praseur) commune, Chantrea district. On 5 February our forces fought the Vietnamese from dawn until dusk and pushed them back to their territory. The enemy left 30 dead soldiers on the battlefield; many Vietnamese dead and wounded were carried by their colleagues to their territory. The Vietnamese enemy also sent reinforcements to the area, prolonging the fighting until 6 February. Our forces fought the enemy until the latter were finally routed and fled in disorder back to their territory.
2. From 2 through 7 February, the Vietnamese enemy continuously bombarded all [as heard] areas along the border of Svay Rieng Province with 105 mm and BK-106 artillery shells. These border areas are located in Dong commune in Romeas Hek district; Sangke commune and Chroung Popel commune in Samraong district.

On 3 and 4 February, the Vietnamese enemy shelled Prey Ta Voeuk Koki Saom commune, Prasot district, burning several rice fields.

3. On the afternoon of 4 February, Vietnamese enemy forces encroached upon our territory in the areas north of Phsar Daeum Ampil and south of (Prey Chamka). We killed 15 Vietnamese enemy soldiers and wounded many others. On the same day, a Vietnamese tank was blown to pieces by one of our mines in the vicinity of (Prey Chamka). On the night of 4 February and in the morning of 5 February, we attacked Vietnamese forces at (Phsar Daeum Ampil), killing several of them. The remaining enemy troops fled in shame back to their territory.

The continuing provocative, expansionist and annexationist acts of the Vietnamese enemy against Cambodian territory clearly prove to the Cambodian people and make the justice-, independence-, and peace-loving people around the world realize that the Vietnamese enemy has no goodwill whatsoever; rather, it is using tricky maneuvers and dark designs to mislead public opinion to cover up its expansionist and annexationist designs on our territory and its aggressive activities against Cambodia.

MASSES' DETERMINATION TO DEFEND COUNTRY CITED

BK081604Y Phnom Penh Domestic Service in Cambodian 1200 GMT 8 Feb 78 BK

[Station commentary]

[Text] Under the KCP's wise and correct leadership our collective worker-peasant masses cherish the nation, independence, sovereignty, national honor and territorial integrity more than their own lives. For this reason, in the preliberation era our worker-peasant masses dared to offer their property, farmland, cattle, houses, kith and kin and even their own lives to the revolution. They fought and overcame all obstacles and difficulties in order to expel enemies of all stripes and recover independence and sovereignty with the highest revolutionary heroism.

Imbued with such a profound love for the nation and independence and spurred by such a strong and singleminded determination to fight and win, despite the fact that our revolutionary forces were weak and poorly equipped, our army and people were still able to smash the enemy U.S. imperialists and lackeys--the world's largest imperialist power--and defeat and exterminate them to the last man from our beloved territory. On 17 April 1975, under the KCP's wise and correct leadership, our fatherland achieved total liberation and our worker-peasant masses gained complete independence, firmly grasping nationwide administrative power in their hands. This one of the most precious and noble fruits of victory of the revolution, made possible by countless sacrifices by many of our fallen worker-peasant folks in the arduous, complex revolutionary struggle to exterminate and crush the enemy along the line of independence, mastery and self-reliance advocated by our KCP. It certainly does not stem from negotiations or compromise with enemy imperialists; neither is it coincidence. On the contrary, it is the result of immense sacrifices by our fallen revolutionaries and people in the past.

Therefore, since total and definitive liberation of the entire country, our worker-peasant masses have shouldered the task of forever defending and safeguarding the national independence, sovereignty, national honor, territorial integrity and the line of mastery and self-reliance. This obviously is a heavy task. However, it is more precious and noble than our individual lives.

To successfully carry out this priceless and noble task, our collective worker-peasant masses and army have continued unconditional and conscious sacrifices under all circumstances and have utterly smashed all criminal pernicious activities and maneuvers undertaken by enemies of all stripes, particularly the expansionist, annexationist Vietnamese enemy, defeating them and expunging them from our territory one after another. Especially on 6 January 1978, when our people and army under the KCP's wise and correct leadership successfully crushed and expelled the large-scale, systematic invasion of Cambodian territory launched in of an undeclared war by the annexationist Vietnamese enemy.

At present, though they have all been driven from our territory, the Vietnamese aggressors still refuse to abandon the ambition to swallow Cambodia and force it into joining an Indochinese federation under their control. Along the Cambodian border and especially from the sea border in Kampot Province to the dragon's tail [the point where the Cambodian, Lao and Vietnamese borders meet] in the northeastern region, and expansionist, annexationist Vietnamese enemy has continued acts of provocation and encroachment on our border areas, such as strafing; shelling; sending spies and commander to conduct espionage and subversion; and killing, pillaging and destroying lives and property of our people along the border on a daily basis.

However, since our army and people possess a strong and singleminded determination to defend territorial integrity, all our territory in the border region has been totally preserved.

This clearly shows that national independence, sovereignty, honor, territorial integrity and the right to manage the destiny of their own country--so far firmly wielded by our army and people--certainly have not resulted by coincidence or as enemy gifts. They certainly are only possible due to the bloodshed and countless sacrifices contributed by our army and people who have fought most courageously against aggressors under the KCP's wise and correct leadership.

In sum, from the time of the internal war to the revolutionary war for liberating the nation and people, which lasted more than 5 years, and to the era of present-day Democratic Cambodia, our collective worker-peasant masses and army have gained great experience from their own flesh, blood, lives and deeds. This precious, noble lesson is the resolution to fearlessly fight and smash enemies of all stripes daring to encroach on our territory, especially the expansionist, annexationist Vietnamese enemy.

Each of our workers, peasants and soldiers--the revolutionary heirs at present and in the future--are determined to emulate the lesson generating from the fresh blood of our forefathers and those revolutionary soldiers at the front by vigorously striving to implement all-round tasks within the framework of their respective trade unions, cooperatives, units, offices and departments. In fact, our cooperative peasants in all regions, sectors, districts and cooperatives are now accelerating the drive to rapidly harvest and store rainy season rice and completely protect and safeguard them, constantly heightening revolutionary vigilance, taking care not to allow the rice in the fields to become too ripe--in which case the rice ears will not hold the grain--and not allow pests to make holes in the granaries, baskets and sacks and destroy the harvested crops, preventing fire hazards and especially insuring no enemy, particularly the Vietnamese enemy, can loot and destroy our rice with impunity.

At the same time, they have sent some of their manpower to begin planting the dry season rice wherever possible, to strengthen the existing irrigation projects and to build more dams, reservoirs, canals, ditches and new field embankment networks in order to gain greater mastery over the water control problem and promote conditions to maximize rice production in 1978 and future years to help improve our people's living standard, keep the frontline combatants adequately fed at all times, and make our Democratic Cambodia prosperous by leaps and bounds. Our union workers in the capital and in various provincial cities are also uniting with our frontline revolutionary army fighting against and exterminating the expansionist, annexationist Vietnamese enemy who has continued to encroach on and create disturbances in the border region of our Cambodian fatherland. They have also united with the great movement to maximize production of everything which has been undertaken by our cooperative peasants, by striving to produce farm tools and utility items more vigorously and in greater quantities to sufficiently and expeditiously supply our peasants throughout the country with necessary equipment, this contributing to accelerating nation building efforts, further improving our people's living standard and more effectively defending Democratic Cambodia.

Our collective worker-peasant masses and army are determined to continue holding high revolutionary vigilance and to strengthen and expand internal solidarity and unity within the entire national community in order to intensify the drive to fulfill their respective tasks to safeguard, heighten and keep permanently red the banners of national independence, sovereignty, honor, territorial integrity, and mastery and self-reliance of our nation and people.

RADIO REPORTS DISINTEGRATION OF SOVIET SATELLITE OVER CANADA

BK090320Y Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 1100 GMT 7 Feb 78 BK

[Text] According to a news report from Moscow, on 4 February Leonid Sedov, a specialist connected with the Soviet Academy of Sciences, granted an interview to a TASS correspondent on the disintegration on 25 January of the Cosmos-954 earth satellite. He said that the satellite disintegrated over northern Canada and that the cause of the disintegration had not yet been clearly ascertained. The Soviet Government had urgently contacted the Canadian government and sent Soviet specialists to make an on-the-spot investigation. However, it is apparent that the aforementioned incident has not caused any damage to Canada.

INDIAN ECONOMIC DELEGATION HOLDS TALKS WITH NOUHAK PHOUMSAVAN

BK091007Y Delhi ISI in English 0843 GMT 9 Feb 78 BK

[Text] The latest situation in the Indochina states and the economic and political developments in South and Southeast Asia came up for a review when Somarendra Kundu, minister of state for external affairs, met Lao Acting Prime Minister Nouhak Phoumsavan [title as received] in Vientiane on February 8, reports SAMACHAR. The two leaders also discussed bilateral economic relations between the two countries and identified particular fields where India could cooperate with Laos.

Kundu, who called on Nouhak Phoumsavan in his office, was accompanied by Arun Ghosh, additional secretary in the Steel and Mines Ministry, and S. Shahabuddin, joint secretary in the External Affairs Ministry. The meeting lasted 90 minutes.

Nouhak Phoumsavan said Laos regarded India as its very close friend and greatly appreciated the support it extended to his country. He gave Kundu an idea on the present situation in this region. Nouhak Phoumsavan told Kundu that since Laos was a landlocked country it wanted to develop its inland water transport system and in this he sought India's cooperation. He also said Laos had a great power surplus. Nouhak Phoumsavan indicated that Laos wanted to set up some technical institutes.

Kundu explained to Nouhak Phoumsavan that though there were constraints on the resources, still, India would try to do whatever it could to cooperate with Laos in the economic field, particularly agriculture. He said India believed that developing countries must look to each other for mutual assistance and cooperation.

Kundu said the Janata government was trying to further improve India's relations with all its neighbours. Kundu said India was committed to use nuclear energy only for peaceful purposes and did not believe in nuclear weapons. India also keenly looked forward to an early world disarmament and an elimination of all atomic weapons. He said India was keen that the unity in the nonaligned group was maintained. India considered that nonalignment had more relevance today, he added.

Kundu told SAMACHAR that there was a complete identity of views on the major international and bilateral matters between India and Laos. India is assisting Laos in a big fisheries project and will set up a livestock breeding farm.

Delegation Departs 8 February

BK090448Y Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 9 Feb 78 BK

[Text] At 0800 on 8 February Vice Premier and Finance Minister Nouhak Phoumsavan received the Indian economic delegation headed by Minister of State for External

Affairs Somarendra Kundu at the premier's office. Accompanying the delegation was E. A. Srinivasan, ambassador of the Republic of India. The guests and the host held conversations in an atmosphere of friendship. The two sides stressed the strengthening and consolidation of the friendly relations and cooperation between Laos and India. On the afternoon of the same day, Somarendra Kundu and party left Vientiane for home. They were seen off at Wattai Airport by Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Nouphan Sitphasai and a number of high-ranking cadres from various ministries concerned. Ambassador E. A. Srinivasan and a number of embassy staff members also saw the delegation off at the airport.

POLISH ARMY ENSEMBLE MEETS PHOUMI VONGVICHIT, DEPARTS

BK091020Y Vientiane KPL in English 0926 GMT 9 Feb 78 BK

[Text] Vientiane, February 9 (KPL)--Phoumi Vongvichit, vice premier and minister of education, sports and religious affairs of Laos, on February 7 received the Polish army art ensemble headed by Lieutenant Colonel Jan Ragala. Franciszek Mliczek, Polish ambassador to Laos, was at the reception. Vice Premier Phoumi had a cordial talk with Lieutenant Colonel Jan Ragala and his ensemble. He welcomed the successful performance tour of the ensemble in Laos and considered it as a contribution to strengthening the friendship and cooperation between Laos and Poland in the cultural field. The Polish art ensemble left Vientiane for home later in the day. It was seen off at Wattai Airport by officials of the Lao Cultural and Art Department and of the Ministry of Information, Propaganda, Culture and Tourism. Ambassador Franciszek Mliczek was also at the airport. During its stay in Laos, the ensemble gave art performances to Vientiane population and visited many cultural and economic establishments in the Lao capital.

FIDEL CASTRO THANKS KAYSONE PHOMVIHAN FOR GREETINGS

BK071359Y Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 7 Feb 78 BK

[1 February message to Kaysone Phomvihan, general secretary of the LPRP and premier of the LPDR, from Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba, president of the State Council and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba]

[Text] On behalf of the people, party and Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba, we would like to express thanks to you for your greetings message conveyed to us on the occasion of the 19th anniversary of the victory of our revolution.

[Signed] Fidel Castro Ruz, first secretary of the Communist Party of Cuba, president of the State Council and chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Cuba

VNA DIRECTOR THANKS KPL DIRECTOR FOR TET GREETINGS

BK091410Y Vientiane Domestic Service in Lao 0000 GMT 9 Feb 78 BK

[7 February message from VNA Director General Dao Tung to KPL Director Sisanan Sengnanouvong and KPL editorial staff]

[Text] We are overwhelmingly happy and are fully convinced that the militant solidarity between our two countries and the cooperation and unity between our two news agencies on the basis of the victories scored over the past more than 2 years will be more vigorously consolidated and developed in the new year

SRV ENVOY, PARTY ARRIVE IN BANGKOK TO OPEN EMBASSY

BK090616Y Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 0530 GMT 9 Feb 78 BK

[Text] Mr Do Ngoc Duang, counsellor attached to the SRV Foreign Ministry who has been appointed Vietnamese charge d'affaires to Thailand, arrived last night on a Thai Airways flight. The Vietnamese charge d'affaires gave a press briefing at Bangkok airport, saying that his party will open the embassy. Similarly, a party from Thailand will go to Hanoi to set up a Thai embassy there, he said. The SRV officials will stay at the old Vietnam Embassy on Wireless Road. Asked when an ambassador will arrive to take up his post, the SRV charge d'affaires said that it would be soon. The SRV charge d'affaires was accompanied by third secretary (Linh Van Sinh) and four other officials--(Le Dai Tam), (Le Quang Hoi), (Ngo Huu Duc) and (Nguyen Van Vinh).

POST Report

BK090136Y Bangkok POST in English 9 Feb 78 p 1 BK

[Text] An expert on Asian affairs from Hanoi, Do Ngoc Duang, arrived here last night to man the Vietnamese Embassy in Bangkok. Mr Duang, who was accompanied by six staff members, told the press upon his arrival at Don Muang Airport that "the Vietnamese ambassador to Thailand will be appointed soon and will arrive here shortly afterwards."

Mr Duang, who will serve as a counsellor at the Vietnamese Embassy, said that Vietnam will uphold the five principles of co-existence (pancasila) in dealing with the Vietnamese-Cambodian border conflict.

Asked about the United States' order to expel Vietnamese Ambassador to United Nations Dinh Ba Thi from the United States for alleged spying, Mr Duang said that the allegation was untrue and the Vietnamese Government had categorically denied it.

DELEGATION DEPARTS FOR AVIATION TALKS IN VIENTIANE

BK081435Y Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 8 Feb 78 BK

[Text] Deputy Communications Minister Prasit Narongdet, who will lead a 14-man delegation to negotiate with Laos, Vietnam and Hong Kong in Vientiane from 9 to 11 February, granted an interview to newsmen at Bangkok airport today, prior to his departure. The negotiations, he said, will finalize the opening of Lao air space which will enable the Thai airline to fly over Lao territory to Hong Kong. He disclosed that Thailand and Vietnam have already signed an aviation agreement, and that Vietnam has informed Thailand of its readiness to allow Thailand to use the A-1 route.

Prasit Narongdet further said that the meeting in Vientiane will consider overflights of the territories of the four countries, rates to be charged and the date for beginning the flights. The meeting will begin on 9 February and is expected to end on 10 February. After the meeting, Vietnam, Thailand and Laos will hold another meeting to discuss the opening of the route between Bangkok and Hanoi, and whether aircraft will stop over at Vientiane. This meeting, he said, is expected to end on 11 February, and the Thai delegation will return on Saturday afternoon [11 February] or Sunday morning.

Since Thailand has no diplomatic relations with Laos and Vietnam [as heard], Prasit pointed out, certain problems might arise from the use of the A-1 route. However, he said he did not think that Vietnam would refuse to negotiate with Thailand if the problems arise. He disclosed that a few airlines had also asked him to talk to Vietnam on this matter, but he refused to disclose their names. He said he hoped that both Laos and Vietnam will separate politics from trade.

The deputy minister said that nearly all airlines should be allowed to use the A-1 route. However, if some airlines are not allowed to use that route, or while the two countries are considering whether they will allow those airlines to use the route, he would like Vietnam to open to them the R-85 route, which is now being used.

After negotiations at Vientiane have been completed, he said, the next target is Cambodia, which the foreign minister had already approached. He said he believed that negotiations with Cambodia on the aviation issue can be held in the near future.

The deputy communications minister said that, according to the foreign minister and foreign deputy minister, Angkor Wat is a very attractive tourist spot, and Cambodia wants tourists to visit the place. And if this is possible, he noted, Bangkok airport will be important because it is the only place from which tourists can travel to all the Indochinese countries.

During the meeting on the opening of the flight route between Bangkok and Hanoi, both Thailand and Vietnam should consider the benefit of Laos. Laos has asked for the permission to overfly Thai territory as a shortcut in flights between Vientiane and Savannakhet and Pakse. He has already received instructions on this matter from the prime minister, the deputy communications minister said.

KRIANGSAK RECEIVES OFFICIAL INVITATION TO VISIT PHILIPPINES

BK081446Y Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 8 Feb 78 BK

[Text] Today Manuel T. Yan, the Philippine ambassador to Thailand, called on Prime Minister Kriangsak Chamanan at Government House. The Philippine ambassador delivered a message from President Marcos inviting the prime minister to pay an official visit to his country. The prime minister told the ambassador that he felt honored to receive an invitation to visit the Philippines. He said the visit would be significant to Thailand, the Philippines and the ASEAN countries and would contribute to cooperation for mutual benefit and to good understanding and peace in this region. The visit will also strengthen Thai-Philippine relations.

The Philippine ambassador informed the prime minister that his visit would probably coincide with his country's election in April. The prime minister further said that in his position as interior minister, he will see to it that preparations for the projected elections in Thailand would be carried out expeditiously and that the elections would be conducted fairly. The prime minister said that he also planned to look into police administration during his visit to the Philippines.

TAWAN MAI CLAIMS U.S. INVOLVEMENT IN 6 OCTOBER COUP

BK060246Y Bangkok TAWAN MAI in Thai 3 Feb 78 pp 24-28 BK

["Special scoop: "6 October--Land of Shame"; This item appears in the first issue of TAWAN MAI, a weekly published by Pricha Samakhitham, former president of the Journalist Association of Thailand and former adviser to the defunct Socialist and New Force parties.

[Excerpts] It is absolutely necessary that TAWAN MAI review the 6 October 1976 incidents which caused such great distress to all Thai who cherish justice. The incidents involved cruelty and savagery unprecedented in Thai history. TAWAN MAI has accurate information and memoranda to present to our readers so they can judge the facts and ascertain the truth regarding the 6 October incidents, as well as determine their main cause. Who or what group or groups savagely smashed student power? And what was their objective?

Our decision to disclose the facts behind the 6 October incidents was taken in light of our responsibility as a mass medium whose duty is to report facts and the truth to the people, who are the owners of our country. We know full well that our country has been deluded. The time has come for us to impose facts and the truth.

The 6 October massacre and overthrow of the elected government can be understood only in the context of the political background of Southeast Asia, in which area the United States has been interfering for decades. During the 6 October incidents, military and police forces collaborated with other rightist groups to overthrow Thailand's democratic administrative system and to suppress and massacre students, intellectuals and other groups who cherish justice. They were savagely murdered on charges of being procommunist.

It is generally known that the United States was behind the actions of those reactionary groups. The United States began playing a significant role in Thailand over 20 years ago when Thai leaders opened the door for it to enter our country and build up and strengthen the Thai military and police forces. The policy implemented by former governments complemented the U.S. plan to expand its sphere of influence in Asia; this was clearly seen when the United States openly sent its military forces into Indochina. U.S. assistance to Thai military and police forces was greater than that provided to other groups, and this enabled the latter to be more than strong enough to monopolize administrative power in our country.

In order to explain the 6 October coup and the violent suppression perpetrated by the extreme rightist groups, emphasis should be placed on the special roles played by the CIA and the U.S. Defense Department in Thailand's Internal Security Operations Command, ISOC, (in the past it was called the Communist Suppression Operations Command, or CSOC). Even today the CIA continues to play a leading role at a high level in ISOC work; it aims to use it as a base for bargaining with other administrative leaders. Based on long-standing friendly Thai-U.S. relations, the CIA hopes to use ISOC to preserve its bargaining power within the Thai administration; therefore, some American advisers cooperate with the ISOC by giving it advice.

This is proved in a February 1974 newspaper interview with ISOC Commander Gen Saibut Koetphon, who has cooperated closely with the CIA. He noted the CIA's close relations with Border Patrol Police headquarters and that these relations were impossible to isolate in agreements reached between Thailand and the United States.

At the same time, Lt Gen Withun Pasawat, a former deputy director general of the police department, told the press that the CIA was providing substantial aid to Thailand. He too was provided with regular intelligence reports. He asserted that the CIA is democratic and that it hates dictatorships. Gen Withun was formerly commander of the Thai mercenary forces fighting in Laos for the United States.

At a time when Thailand was beset by growing waves of public protests, workers strikes, farmers' demonstrations as well as terrorist attacks in rural areas, the U.S. Congress began to closely scrutinize U.S. military aid to Thailand. In fact, the unlimited aid provided by the United States went into the pockets of some of the people in the ISOC. This is why some elements really wanted to see a military dictatorship fully restored in Thailand.

An agent of Col Han Phongsitanon, a former ISOC officer said last February that his experience working with ISOC made him realize that the Thai people became alarmed that Thailand might fall to the communists, especially right after liberation of the three Indochinese neighbors, mainly as a result of the propaganda work of ISOC, which was used as a tool by the United States.

The policy of "divide and rule" was started. It is reported that during 1974 the CIA carried out more than 100 operations in Thailand based on this policy.

The conflicts between the Soi Ratchakru camp [led by Praman Adireksan] and Gen Krit Siwara's group was another key which led to the 6 October incidents. The Soi Ratchakru camp was revived after the students' and people's overthrow of Thanom and Praphat. The group set up a political party whose foundation was its broad economic wealth based on connections with the Bangkok Bank, the Sri Ayutthaya Bank and many other international companies. This party gained sufficient seats in the 26 January 1975 general elections to participate in the coalition government, and its party leader was given the defense portfolio.

The activities and attitude of this group did not please Gen Krit Siwara. This caused a serious split within the military. In April 1976 Gen Chalat Hiranyasiri was promoted to deputy army commander in chief and was attached to the Defense Ministry. Gen Krit Siwara was appointed defense minister, but he died only 1 week after his appointment was announced. There was something complicated behind the death of Gen Krit Siwara; and we hope it will be made public later on. The man who succeeded Krit was an associate of the Soi Ratchakru camp, Gen Thawit Seniwong na Ayutthaya. His appointment as defense minister was a victory for the Soi Ratchakru camp. The group's growing influence was a direct threat to another influential group in the military, the group led by Gen Bunchai Bamrungphong, at that time army commander in chief and a political heir of General Krit.

The signs of a coup could already be felt in September 1976. September is the month of the annual military reshuffle. The rumor of a coup was rife. The "divide and rule" policy of the CIA was achieving greater success.

The scenario of the 6 October coup was devised by a certain powerful group which wanted to overthrow the civilian government. Field Marshal Thanom sneaked back into Thailand. This resulted in a mass rally of students and people to protest the return of the former leader who was driven out of the country by a public uprising in October 1973 and who was called "tyrant" by all the people. The growing strength of the antidictatorship front served as a good pretext for staging a coup to take over administrative power. The incidents leading to the coup were not accidental; they were specifically planned to trigger a brutal massacre of students and people and the staging of the coup on 6 October. TAWAN MAI will expose them in future issues.

PRAPHAT COMMENTS ON HIS POLITICAL FUTURE

BK081117Y Bangkok DAO SIAM in Thai 8 Feb 78 pp 1, 16 BK

[Text] After attending the trial as a prosecution witness in a civil case about the purchase of land for the construction of the Chiang Mai Provincial Disaster Relief Center yesterday afternoon, Gen Praphat Charusathian, former deputy prime minister and interior minister, spoke to newsmen about his appeal to the prime minister for the return of his property. He said he had nothing to tell newsmen because the government-appointed committee is still considering the matter.

Asked how he occupied himself, General Praphat replied that he is now living on a 10,000 baht per month pension and plays golf during his spare time. He denied rumors that he would run in the next general election in Lop Buri Province.

Asked about reports that he would form a political party, he said he had several times stressed that he would not re-enter politics, because politics is dirty and full of mudslinging campaigns. However, nothing is certain, he said. He might enter politics if he is forced to do so. He told newsmen that he always keeps his word and does not like to lie.

ANTIGUERRILLA OPERATIONS WITH MALAYSIA TO BE REDUCED

BK090235Y Bangkok NATION REVIEW in English 9 Feb 78 pp 1, 3 BK

[Text] Joint Thai-Malaysian operations against communist guerrillas will be reduced to avoid criticism that "it has tarnished Thailand's dignity," Fourth Region Army Commander Lt Gen Pin Thammasi said yesterday. He said that cooperation of Thai and Malaysian armies will however remain unchanged particularly in form of joint training. The first joint exercise will be held early next month, General Pin said.

He described the suppression of southern guerrillas by military personnel under the Fourth Region Army Command as 70 to 80 percent successful without "having to ask for the Malaysian assistance." "In fact," he said, "the armies of both countries are coordinating and we have never asked for Malaysian assistance as being misunderstood by some groups of people."

Meanwhile, police reported that military troops and police engaged in operations against communist guerrillas and separatists have captured 10 jungle camps and arrested more than 100 suspects in the southern province of Yala. Police said more than 2,000 security forces sweeping Yala, Narathiwat and Pattani near the Thai-Malaysian border since early January also recovered several taperecorders, duplicating machines, documents and food stores from camps, but no weapons.

CABINET REORGANIZES MANAGEMENT OF MASS MEDIA

BK081514Y Bangkok Domestic Service in Thai 1300 GMT 8 Feb 78 BK

[Excerpt] Today at Government House, Akhom Mokkaranon and Lt Suwit Yotmani, deputy spokesmen of the Prime Minister's Office, held a news conference on the results of today's cabinet meeting chaired by Prime Minister Gen Kriangsak Chamanan.

Referring to the proposal of the Prime Minister's Office to improve the performance of the Public Relations Department and the Mass Communications Organization of Thailand, the cabinet has instructed the director general of the Public Relations Department, the director of the Mass Communications Organization of Thailand and the undersecretary of state of the Prime Minister's Office to report in detail on the management of television and radio stations. The cabinet has adopted a solution to allow the Public Relations Department to control the management of all radio stations, including the Thai Television Company's radio of the Mass Communication Organization of Thailand, and to allow the Mass Communications Organization of Thailand to control the television stations, including those now under the jurisdiction of the Public Relations Department in the provinces.

To facilitate the new task of the two agencies, the cabinet has appointed a committee for improving the management of radio and television stations. The committee members are:

1. Maj Gen Prakop Charumani, undersecretary of state of the Prime Minister's Office, chairman.
2. The undersecretary of state for communications or his representative.
3. The undersecretary of state for defense or his representative.
4. The secretary general of the office of the National Economic and Social Development Board or his representative.
5. The secretary general of the National Security Council or his representative.
6. The secretary general of the Civil Service Commission.
7. The director of the Budget Bureau.
8. An official from the Prime Minister's Office as secretary and member of the committee.

CUBAN ENVOY, PRESS SUPPORT SRV UN ENVOY IN SPY CASE

BK081454Y Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1100 GMT 5 Feb 78 BK

[Text] World opinion has refuted the shameless allegation uttered by the United States. On 3 February Comrade Ricardo Alarcon, Cuban ambassador to the United Nations, said: The false accusation that the SRV ambassador had abused his residence privileges has all the character of a gross provocation against the Vietnamese people and their representative to the United Nations. Obviously, this is a maneuver aimed at lowering the political prestige of the SRV in the United Nations and the rest of the world. It was this political prestige which forced the New York TIMES to admit merely 1 month ago that the dynamic and effective actions of Vietnam were an outstanding feature at the recent UN General Assembly session.

In its 4 February issue the Cuban paper GRANMA carried an article exposing the gross, slanderous allegation made by the United States against the SRV representative to the United Nations. After pointing out that this was an unprecedented act, the article said: After its debacle in Vietnam, U.S. imperialism has been carrying out a cunning offensive against the SRV with a view to lessening the enormous international prestige which Vietnam has acquired through the heroic struggle for its national interests and for the interests of all nations throughout the world.

The slander made against the SRV ambassador is part and parcel of this crafty campaign. No one believes the slanderous allegations made by the United States, which has blatantly conducted spying activities in other countries. In point of fact, everyone knows that, wherever they may be, Vietnamese diplomats have always carried out their duties in a correct and respectable manner.

FOREIGN DIPLOMATS DEPART HANOI FOR VISIT TO SOUTH, BORDER

OW082032Y Hong Kong AFP in English 1750 GMT 8 Feb 78 OW

[Excerpt] Hanoi, Feb. 8 (AFP)--Most of the diplomatic mission chiefs posted here left Hanoi today for a visit to the south of Vietnam, said to be planned as a pleasure trip with a possible visit to the Vietnam-Cambodian area for those interested. Newsmen who recently visited the region south and north of the Parrot's Beak--and who generally precede diplomats on such trips--believed it would be more a working mission than a tourist trip.

The official list of diplomats taking part was not published, but first reports indicated that all socialist nation representatives, except the Mongolian ambassador who invoked personal reasons, were taking part. Eyewitnesses at Gia Lam Airport said the ambassadors of Belgium, Britain and West Germany also left for the visit. Two Western European representatives, the Swedish ambassador and the Dutch charge d'affaires, are currently away from Hanoi.

RADIO NOTES WORLD SUPPORT FOR SRV BORDER ISSUE STAND

BK081316Y [Editorial Report BK] From 30 January to 3 February, Hanoi Domestic Service reported on favorable comments of various international organizations and newspapers on the Vietnam-Cambodia border conflict.

In its 2300 GMT newscast on 30 January, Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese carries a half-minute report noting that "the national center of Panamanian workers, which held its fourth congress of 22 January, issued a statement on the Vietnam-Cambodia border problem." The report adds: "The statement affirms support for our government's stand and demands that the Cambodian authorities immediately sit down at the negotiating table to solve the border issue on the basis of friendship, solidarity and mutual respect and benefit."

Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese at 2300 GMT on 31 January carries a 2-minute report on international press comment on the border issue. The report says: "The Hungarian papers NEPSZABDSAG and SZABAD FOLD published reports on the Cambodian authorities' serious provocative acts and gross violations of Vietnam's territorial integrity. The papers underlined our government's good will in solving the border issue through negotiations."

"The Cuban papers GRANMA and JUVENTUD REBELDE and Radio Havana have carried reports denouncing the Cambodian armed forces for continued violations of Vietnamese territory.

"The Egyptian papers AL-GUMHURIYA and LE JOURNAL D'EGYPTE have in the past few days reported on nibbling operations by the Cambodian armed forces against Vietnamese territory in Ha Tien and on their crimes against the Vietnamese people in border areas."

The report continues: "An editorial of the recent issue of the paper JORNAL DE ANGOLA, organ of the party and Government of Angola, said: One of the causes of the Vietnam-Cambodia border crisis is that while one side entertains correct views, the other side adopts a very unreasonable and heedless stand. The party and Government of the SRV always want a peaceful solution full of good will to the border problem. Their reasonable proposals in the 31 December 1977 statement show a correct stand based on the spirit of negotiations and of solidarity and friendship."

Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese at 1100 GMT on 2 February reports that "recently, the Norwegian Communist Party Central Committee issued a statement saying: Both sides should immediately come to the negotiating table and arrive at a treaty aimed at appropriately solving the Vietnam-Cambodia border conflict."

Another report in the same cast says: "On the afternoon of 27 January, at a meeting with a delegation of the Vietnam General Federation of Trade Unions to the national congress of Panamanian workers, Dr (Aparicia), head of a department of the Panamanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, condemned the barbarous crimes of the Cambodian authorities against the Vietnamese people and demanded that the Cambodian authorities immediately negotiate with Vietnam to peacefully solve the border problem." The report continues:

"Under the title 'A Month After the SRV's Proposals, Cambodia Continues Its Attacks and Deliberately Evades Negotiations,' the Hungarian paper NEUSTE NACHRICHTEN on 29 January points out: In the past month, the Cambodian authorities should have understood the fact that world public opinion totally supports the SRV's proposal for negotiations. The Cambodian authorities' military activities are causing them to become increasingly isolated right in their own country and in the world arena."

Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese at 2300 GMT on 3 February says: "The paper PRACE, organ of the Czechoslovak General Federation of Trade Unions, on 1 February notes: The principle of good neighborhood and peaceful cooperation is developing with increasing strength in the world. The SRV, the first socialist state in Southeast Asia, has also chosen that path."

"The more the Vietnamese people cherish their independence and freedom--the independence and freedom which they have won at the high cost of great sacrifice--the more they respect the independence and freedom of other nations. But the Cambodian Government refuses to follow this path. On the contrary, it has increased hatred for Vietnam, regardless of the protests of the majority of the Cambodian people. Cambodia is currently continuing its hostile acts by destroying many Vietnamese villages and killing many Vietnamese civilians."

"The SRV Government's correct policy is also reflected in the successful visit of Minister of Foreign Affairs Nguyen Duy Trinh to many Southeast Asian countries."

Another report carried in the same cast says: "The Hungarian paper RABOTNICHESKO DELO and other papers in Hungary on 30 January carry articles condemning the barbarous acts of the Cambodian armed forces against our compatriots in Tay Ninh Province. One of the articles says: 'The SRV has on many occasions proposed a peaceful solution to the problems through negotiations, but it is regrettable that up to now Cambodia has not responded to the SRV's proposals and has continued its acts of aggression against Vietnam.'"

VNA Cites Phoun Sipaseut Support

OW090724Y Hanoi VNA in English 0712 GMT 9 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Hanoi, VNA February 9--Lao Vice Premier and Foreign Minister Phoun Sipaseut says the latest proposals of the Vietnamese Government are another effort to reach a negotiated settlement of the border issue with Kampuchea, on the basis of independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and mutual understanding.

In a meeting with Vietnamese Charge d'Affaires Nguyen Si Hoat in Vientiane on February 7 Phoun Sipaseut said that these proposals conformed to the aspirations and interests of both the Vietnamese and Kampuchean peoples, and to those of the Lao people as well.

He said: "If these logical, reasonable proposals are accepted, the border dispute between Kampuchea and Vietnam will end, and peace and friendship will be restored to provide the two countries with good conditions to build themselves and contribute to the defence of peace and the cause of revolution of other nations in Southeast Asia and the rest of the world."

ENVOY TO FRANCE PRESENTS BORDER STATEMENT TO FRENCH GROUPS

BK090528Y Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0400 GMT 9 Feb 78 BK

[Text] On the afternoon of 6 February our ambassador to France, Vo Van Sung, introduced to representatives of 12 progressive French mass organizations our government's 5 February statement on relations between Vietnam and Cambodia. The French organizations included the French Peace Movement, the France-Vietnam Friendship Association, the France-Vietnam Health Association, the general federation of trade unions, the women's union, the communist youth league, the advanced education trade union, the Catholic young workers league, the refugee aid center, and so forth.

The representatives of these organizations unanimously voiced support for the 5 February statement and acclaimed the SRV Government's reasonable stand reflected in its three-point proposal. They expressed the sincere hope that the Vietnam-Cambodia border issue would be solved as soon as possible through peaceful negotiations.

Envoy's Press Conference Reported

LD081711Y Paris LE MONDE in French 8 Feb 78 p 6 LD

[Unattributed report: "Vietnamese Ambassador to France Denounces 'Bloody Purges' in Cambodia"]

[Text] During a press conference Monday, 6 February, the Vietnamese ambassador to Paris gave details of the three-point peace plan which his government published Sunday. He claimed to be "optimistic" about the peaceful outcome of the conflict. Nevertheless, Vo Van Sung made a vigorous attack on the Phnom Penh regime: "International public opinion," he said, "has clearly noticed that the very somber situation within Cambodia is the result of a policy of bloody repression and bloody purges. The Cambodian authorities never admit their errors; they have intented this alleged Vietnamese operation to keep themselves in power, create a diversion and tame public opinion."

Questioned about the nature of these "purges," Mr Sung specified that they have been carried out "against the opposition." Phnom Penh is pursuing an "unpopular policy" and a "large opposition" exists, he said. Is this opposition leftwing or rightwing, and is it pro-Vietnamese? "It is not for us to say; the whole world is talking about it. It consists of opposition to a policy of repression vis-a-vis the legitimate aspirations of the Cambodian people."

Mr Sung also gave details about the "international guarantees and supervision" proposed in the Vietnamese plan. They could appeal to the United Nations, "nonaligned countries or a list of countries determined by both parties." The borderline must be made official by a treaty "on the basis of mutual respect for national sovereignty within present borders." But although both sides recognize the colonial borderline on land, the same does not apply at sea. Hanoi appears to have modified its position on this matter recently: Mr Sung did not allude to the "Brevie line" and confined himself to stating that the sea border "could be a subject for negotiation."

Phnom Penh has not yet made known its views on the Hanoi peace plan. Cambodian radio reported Sunday another Vietnamese attack on its territory, supported by tanks and aircraft; Monday, Vietnamese radio announced that four Cambodian battalions had been repulsed.

COMMENTARY ON GOVERNMENT'S GOODWILL IN SOLVING BORDER CONFLICT

OW081630Y Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1430 GMT 8 Feb 78 OW

[Station commentary: "Vietnam's Goodwill Shines With the Just Cause"]

[Text] The correct principle and line of our party, government and people to defend their national independence are to always respect the independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and freedom of other countries. Pursuant to this line and principle in relations with Cambodia, we have always applied the policy of strengthening militant solidarity, mutual confidence, long cooperation and mutual assistance in every aspect between the two countries on the principle of complete equality, respect for each other's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity and for each other's legitimate interests.

However, the Government of Democratic Cambodia has created a conflict with our country in the border areas. On several occasions, our government has proposed that the two sides negotiate in order to settle this problem, but the Cambodian side has not responded. Faithful to its line, principle and policy, the SRV government in its 5 February statement on relations between Vietnam and Cambodia concretely expressed the goodwill of our government and people through the three-point proposal, despite

the fact that the Government of Democratic Cambodia not only has not responded to the goodwill of our government and people but has also continued its attacks against and encroachment on Vietnamese territory and brazenly slandered Vietnam.

In order to immediately end the conflict in the border areas caused by the Cambodian side and to apply its unchanging line, principle and foreign policy, in its 5 February statement, our government proposed that all hostile military activities in the border area be ended and that the armed forces of each side be withdrawn 5 km from the border. Moreover, the unchanging line, principle and foreign policy and goodwill of our government and people, who truly desire to settle all problems involving Vietnam and Cambodia, are also manifested in the SRV Government's 5 February statement through the measures aimed at insuring the long-term interests of the Vietnamese and Cambodian people and at meeting the desire of the world's peoples. In that statement, our government proposed that the Vietnamese and Cambodian sides meet immediately in order to hold discussions and sign a treaty which pledges respect for each other's independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, nonaggression, nonuse of violence or threats in their relations, noninterference in each other's internal affairs, not to conduct subversive or antagonistic activities, equal treatment, living in a peaceful and friendly manner, and having good neighborly relations. Both sides will also sign a treaty on national borders on the basis of respect for each other's sovereignty and territory as defined by the present border line.

In order that the world's people clearly realize its goodwill, the SRV Government has also proposed a form for securing international guarantees and supervision to be agreed upon by the Vietnamese and Cambodian sides in the above treaties. The two sides may agree to go through the UN, through a mixed commission of nonaligned countries--of which Vietnam and Cambodia are members--of the international supervision and control commission of the 1954 Geneva conference on Vietnam, or that of the 1962 conference on Laos and so forth.

The goodwill of our government and people demonstrated in the SRV Government 5 February statement has been welcomed and supported by world public opinion. World public opinion had previously pointed out that since coming to power in 1975, the Government of Democratic Cambodia has caused conflicts with Vietnam and initiated a territorial expansion policy hostile to Vietnam and incited national hatred against the Vietnamese people. World public opinion has also pointed out that Vietnam, while displaying a perseverance and restraint rarely seen in the world, has sought ways to resolve the problems with Cambodia through peaceful negotiations and has used only legitimate self-defense measures, whereas the Cambodian Government has sent troops to launch attacks deep into Vietnamese territory, to occupy many areas of Vietnamese territory and to perpetrate many barbarous crimes against Vietnam.

After our government issued its 31 December 1977 statement proposing that Vietnam and Cambodia immediately meet in order to resolve problems through peaceful negotiations and immediately end all military activities, world public opinion again realized the goodwill of the SRV Government and people and has noted that the Government of Democratic Cambodia has not responded to this goodwill, but has continued to send large numbers of troops, at division strength, to launch large-scale attacks deep into Vietnamese territory and has continued to perpetrate many barbarous crimes against the Vietnamese people while repeatedly slandering Vietnam for carrying out aggressive and subversive activities against Cambodia and forcing Cambodia into a Vietnam-dominated federation.

So now, in view of the SRV Government's 5 February statement, containing a concrete three-point proposal to insure each other's independence, sovereignty, freedom and territorial integrity according to the present national borders and to insure nonaggression and to refrain from subversive and hostile activities against each other and to promote equality and peace and good neighborly relations, people are waiting to see how Democratic Cambodia reacts.

World public opinion has long realized that the Government of Democratic Cambodia started the conflict, has sent troops to attack and occupy many areas of Vietnamese territory and perpetrate many barbarous crimes against the Vietnamese people and has grossly slandered Vietnam. The Cambodian Government has set up a tyrannical regime, has instituted unpopular policies and has carried out many bloody massacres against its own people.

Realizing now that the Government of Democratic Cambodia has repeatedly failed to respond to the goodwill of the SRV Government and people and has continued attacks against Vietnamese territory, world public opinion will wonder whether the brazen slanderous allegations against Vietnam that Democratic Cambodia has repeatedly uttered are only aimed at distracting public opinion in Cambodia and the world from its cruel regime, which is opposed by its own people.

VFF SENDS TET GREETINGS TO PRESIDENT TON DUC THANG

BK081507Y Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 5 Feb 78 BK

[Text] On the occasion of the lunar new year, on 4 February the VFF Central Committee sent a greeting letter to President Ton Duc Thang. The letter says:

Dear Uncle:

On the occasion of the Mau Ngo Tet, the VFF Central Committee, on behalf of the political parties, mass organizations and the front's member organizations and notables respectfully send the warmest greetings to you, the president.

Last year, in light of the resolution of the fourth party congress, our people throughout the nation maintained close solidarity, overcame difficulties, worked courageously and creatively and scored many great achievements in production, construction and other undertakings. The mass revolutionary movement has developed ever more seethingly in all localities. Many new elements have emerged, opening many good prospects for the building of socialism in 1978 and in the coming years. These achievements have shown all the more clearly that the VCP's policy of building socialism throughout the country is perfectly correct.

The managerial task of the state has made new progress, and patriotism, the love of socialism, the revolutionary offensive spirit and the sense of self-reliance of our people have become more developed.

Entering the new year, the VFF Central Committee promises you, Mr President, that it will actively strive to increase the solidarity among the people, vigorously motivate people of all strata to uphold their sense of collective ownership and stir up a broad revolutionary movement throughout the country to concertedly emulate in engaging in productive labor, practicing thrift and accelerating the agricultural development. It also promises to resolutely struggle against negative factors in the economic and social activities, to fulfill the 1978 state plan and to create conditions for the successful implementation of the 1976-1980 state 5-year plan.

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VIETNAM

HUYNH TAN PHAT, OTHERS LAY WREATHS AT HO CHI MINH CITY CEMETERY

BK090630Y Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 7 Feb 78 BK

[Text] On the first day of the Mau Ngo Tet, 7 February 1978, Huynh Tan Phat, SRV vice premier; Vu Dinh Lieu, member of the party Central Committee and chairman of the Ho Chi Minh City people's committee; Maj Gen Dong Van Cong, deputy commander of the 7th Military Region; and representatives of the national assembly and of party, army and administrative organs laid wreaths at the Ho Chi Minh City cemetery for fallen combatants.

Earlier, on 5 and 6 February 1978, the Ho Chi Minh City party and people's committees, people's council and fatherland front committee sent out many delegations to visit and extend Tet greetings to the families of fallen combatants and families who have rendered services to the revolution, to a number of enterprises and agricultural production collectives, to the Pham Van Coi state farm and to many units of the VPA, people's security forces and volunteer youth groups in Ho Chi Minh City which scored many achievements in 1977.

PHAM VAN DONG, TRUONG CHING VISIT NORTHERN PROVINCES FOR TET

OW081645Y Hanoi VNA in English 1606 GMT 8 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Hanoi, VNA February 8--Truong Chinh and Pham Van Dong over the past few days visited three northern provinces where they joined the population and cadres in celebrating Tet, the Vietnamese traditional lunar new year festival.

In Vinh Phu Province, northwest of Hanoi, on February 5, Truong Chinh, Political Bureau member of the party Central Committee and chairman of the National Assembly Standing Committee, participated in an arbor festival with the cadres and people.

At the temple of the Hung kings, founders of Vietnam, Truong Chinh planted a memorial pine tree. He then visited a number of relics of the Hung kings period. Truong Chinh carefully examined a clod of earth containing burnt paddy grains discovered at the Dong Dau site in Vinh Phu--a precious relic of the history of agronomy in ancient Vietnam. On his way back to Hanoi, Truong Chinh called at a centre for research on and nursing of pine trees.

On the occasion of Tet and the "eternal gratitude to President Ho" arbor festival, Truong Chinh spoke with nearly 300 cadres and people's representatives of the province. He praised the tree-planting movement in the province which in 1976-1977 afforested almost 13,000 hectares. The province has 883 tree-planting teams with 12,000 members, including nearly 8,000 old persons.

Truong Chinh said: "Over the past 18 years (since President Ho Chi Minh initiated arbor festival in Vietnam--VNA editor), the tree-planting movement in our country has developed pretty well with 970,000 hectares of forests." Truong Chinh stressed the necessity to give land and forests to agricultural cooperatives to manage and exploit, and the necessity to combine this measure with the building of the district and the strengthening of the district level.

During Tet, Premier Pham Van Dong visited many places in Bac Thai and Ha Tuyen provinces. In Bac Thai, the premier cordially talked with workers at the Thai Nguyen iron and steel complex. He called on the workers to study hard to raise their standard and their workmanship.

On the afternoon of February 5, Premier Pham Van Dong attended a gathering of more than 1,000 representatives of cadres and ethnic groupings in the province to welcome the new spring. Taking the floor, the premier told the provincial cadres to pay due attention to improving the living conditions of the workers, especially metal workers, and other people.

In Ha Tuyen, Premier Pham Van Dong went to Tan Trao village in Son Duong district where he worked before the August revolution of 1945 and during the 9-year resistance against the French colonialists. He revisited the Hong Thai communal house and the Tan Trao banyan tree from where the propaganda unit of the liberation army (forerunner of the present Vietnam People's Army--VNA editor) set out to do its duties, and also Na Lua hamlet where the late President Ho Chi Minh lived before the revolution and during the first years of the anti-French resistance.

Yesterday morning, the premier joined Ha Tuyen cadres in welcoming the new spring. Before leaving the province, he planted a precious timber tree by the side of the Lo (Clear) River.

FURTHER REPORT ON LE DUC THO'S TET VISITS IN SOUTH

BK081300Y Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 7 Feb 78 BK

[Text] On the morning of the first day of Mau Ngo Tet, 7 February 1978, on behalf of the party Central Committee and the government, Comrade Le Duc Tho, member of the Political Bureau and secretary of the party Central Committee, paid a visit to the 175th Military Hospital to present gifts to brother and sister wounded and sick combatants and to convey his Tet greetings to doctors and personnel at the hospital. Accompanying Comrade Le Duc Tho were Maj Gen (Van Phac), deputy head of the VPA General Political Department, and Sen Col Le Van Oc, representative of the army medical department of the General Rear Services Department.

Political commissar Col Trinh Xuan Duc and Lt Col Do Hoai Nam, deputy director of the hospital, guided Comrade Le Duc Tho on a tour of a number of wards in the hospital. Comrade Le Duc Tho went to the bedside of each wounded combatant and solicitously examined their wounds. He cordially inquired after their native lands, families and health and wished them a quick recovery.

Comrade Le Duc Tho urged the leading comrades of the hospital, doctors and orderlies to wholeheartedly and thoroughly care for the wounded and sick combatants with all their love. The hospital must seek assistance from the city party committee and the local administration to providing sufficient medicines and food for them, he said.

Political commissar Col Trihn Xuan Duc reported to Comrade Le Duc Tho about the spirit of overcoming difficulties displayed by the hospital cadres and combatants and their devotion to the treatment of wounded and sick combatants. With the concern of the local administration and people, the hospital had made good preparations for its patients to enjoy Tet, he said. Comrade Le Duc Tho called on the wounded combatants amid a joyful and enthusiastic Tet atmosphere, just as President Ton Duc Thang had presented the hospital with a floral basket on the occasion of Mau Ngo Tet; this showed that the party Central Committee, the government and Uncle Ton always paid attention to the wounded combatants, he added.

On behalf of all the cadres and combatants serving at the 175th Military Hospital, the political commissar pledged to satisfactorily carry out Comrade Le Duc Tho's instructions and wholeheartedly care for the wounded and sick combatants to speed up their recovery, so as to be worthy of the confidence which the party Central Committee and the government placed in the hospital's lofty work.

Before saying goodby to the combatants, Comrade Le Duc Tho called on the wounded combatants who had just recovered their health and were playing chess in the hospital's yard. The latter joyfully gave him a standing ovation. He wished the combatants happy Tet and victories in their spring chess matches.

Attending New Year Meeting of Workers and Civil Servants at the Thu Duc Powerplant

On 3 February, in the enthusiastic atmosphere of the 48th VCP anniversary and Mau Ngo Tet, the cadres, workers and civil servants at the Thu Duc powerplant were greatly elated at having the opportunity to welcome Comrade Le Duc Tho, Political Bureau member and secretary of the party Central Committee, who paid them a visit and attended their New Year meeting. Accompanying Comrade Le Duc Tho were Comrade Nguyen Ho, standing member of the Ho Chi Minh City party committee and vice chairman of the Ho Chi Minh City federation of trade unions, and Comrade Tran Gia Truy, deputy director of the southern power corporation.

Comrades Pham Van Binh, director, and Dang Duc Bien, secretary of the plant trade union, informed Comrade Le Duc Tho that since the Thu Duc powerplant was taken over by the government, it has been effectively managed by its cadres and workers; its installations and equipment have been restored; its operation have become relatively stable and safe; and its output is expected to reach the projected level. They also said that the plant has gradually shifted from the capitalist mode of management to the socialist one and has taken the first step in bringing its operations onto the right track.

Comrade Le Duc Tho cordially talked with all the cadres and workers at the plant. On behalf of the party Central Committee, he commended their good managerial and production work and their overfulfillment of the 1977 state plan. He expressed elation at having the opportunity to visit the plant on the 48th anniversary of our party. He said: Only under the leadership of the party has the revolution been able to regain independence and freedom for the country and to give the working class the right to be masters of factories and the destiny of the nation. This is the greatest event in the history of our country.

After dealing with the causes of the difficulties currently facing our people, Comrade Le Duc Tho said: To turn our country into a prosperous and powerful one is not a task which can be accomplished overnight. Such an undertaking requires a definite amount of time. Every one of us must correctly appraise the situation, continue to uphold the tradition of readily accepting sacrifices and enduring hardships, make monumental efforts and display self-reliance and creativity in productive labor and building. The decisive factor is that we must uphold self-reliance and exploit to the fullest the abundant natural resources of our country and the ample work force, industriousness and intelligence of our people. We will certainly be able to make our country grander and more beautiful in accordance with Uncle Ho's wishes.

Comrade Le Duc Tho reminded the cadres and workers at the plant to uphold the spirit of collective ownership and to continuously step up the emulation movement to display initiative, to carry out technical innovations and to improve managerial work in order to increase labor productivity.

Dealing with the problem of broadening democracy, Comrade Le Duc Tho clearly pointed out: The comrade leaders of the plant must practice criticism and self-criticism in an exemplary manner. Workers have the right to criticize their leaders and to contribute constructive opinions to the leadership. The board of directors must listen to and really respect the opinions of workers.

Comrade Le Duc Tho stressed the role of workers as collective owners in the distribution of commodities and reminded the party committee, the board of directors and the executive committee of the trade union at the plant that, at a time when the state is facing many difficulties, aside from fully and equitably implementing all the policies and systems concerning the workers' livelihood, the leaders of the plant must also rely on the masses and on their own capabilities to satisfactorily support the material and spiritual lives of workers and to care for their working conditions, especially the working conditions of women workers.

Finally, Comrade Le Duc Tho wished all the cadres and workers at the Thu Duc powerplant and their families good health and success in fulfilling the 1978 state plan in the new year. He then presented them with an embroidered silk portrait of Uncle Ho.

On behalf of the cadres and workers at the plant, Comrade Pham Van Binh promised to seriously carry out Comrade Le Duc Tho's instructions and to resolutely strive for greater achievements than last year.

Addressing Soldiers of the 31st Battalion, a Hero Unit

On the morning of 4 February, accompanied by Lt Gen Le Trong Tan, member of the party Central Committee and deputy chief of the VPA General Staff, Comrade Le Duc Tho visited the armed forces command in Ho Chi Minh City. With Maj Gen Nguyen Van Bua, deputy commander of the 7th Military Region, and Sen Col Nguyen Van Tu, political officer of the Ho Chi Minh City command, acting as guides, Comrade Le Duc Tho and his party visited the 31st Battalion, a hero unit of the military control regiment [trung doanf kieemr soats quaan swj] under the city command.

On behalf of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, Comrade Le Duc Tho commended the 31st Battalion combatants for scoring many outstanding exploits on several battle-fronts from the north to the south and for contributing to the liberation of Ho Chi Minh City. Since liberation, the battalion has satisfactorily carried out its military control task, has participated in maintaining public order and security in the city, has trained well, has maintained high vigilance, and has always stood ready to fight in defense of the fatherland.

On behalf of the Central Military Party Committee and soldiers in the 7th Military Region, Lt Gen Le Trong Tan welcomed the instructions of the party Central Committee and Comrade Le Duc Tho that the armed forces in the region must always maintain vigilance; stand ready to fight and fight successfully; contribute to maintaining public order and security in Ho Chi Minh City; help make the army stable and strong in the political, ideological and organizational fields and in military tactics and techniques; and satisfactorily fulfill the production task.

Comrade Le Duc Tho said goodby to the soldiers amid prolonged applause.

Visiting the Party Committee in the 3d Precinct in Ho Chi Minh City

At the office of the 3d precinct party committee in Ho Chi Minh City, on the morning of 5 February--that is, 2 days before Mau Ngo Tet--the comrade members of the executive committee of the party organization and the people's committee in the precinct gathered to welcome Comrade Le Duc Tho, who paid them a visit to present his New Year greetings.

Comrade Vo Thi Viet, precinct party committee secretary, and Comrade Nguyen Van Ba, deputy precinct party committee secretary and chairman of the precinct people's committee, informed Comrade Le Duc Tho of the efforts to help the local people prepare for the New Year celebrations.

Comrade Le Duc Tho was pleased to know that the precinct party committee and people's committee had made many efforts to help the local people, including those who have gone to build new economic areas, prepare for Tet; that each family had received its full ration of grain and foodstuffs as prescribed by the state; that each child in the families of the local laboring people had been given a new shirt and a new pair of trousers specially made for Tet; and that a seething emulation movement to build a new life, new culture and a new type of people was in full swing in the precinct.

In his visit to the 3d precinct, Comrade Le Duc Tho devoted much time to contributing ideas to the local leaders on the task of organizing cadres and guiding implementation at the district level. Comrade Le Duc Tho stressed three points: All party committee echelons must broaden democracy for the people, maintain close contact with the grassroots level in order to firmly and promptly grasp the situation of production and the people's living conditions, and insure fair and convenient distribution of supplies and necessary commodities to the people in accordance with state standards.

On behalf of the 3d precinct party organization, Comrade Vo Thi Viet promised to carry out Comrade Le Duc Tho's instructions in reviewing the work of the local party committee. She respectfully wished the party Central Committee, the government and Comrade Le Duc Tho the best of health in the new year to lead our entire people to successfully implement the fourth party congress resolution and the resolutions of the second and third party Central Committee plenums.

VO VAN KIET VISITS CEMETERIES ON OCCASION OF TET

BK090848Y Ho Chi Minh City Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 8 Feb 78 BK

[Text] On 5 and 6 February Comrade Vo Van Kiet, party Central Committee Political Bureau alternate member and Ho Chi Minh City party committee secretary, went to the Chi Hoa and Phu Tho cemeteries to visit the tombs of the city party committee members, cadres and combatants who were killed during the 1968 Mau Than Tet offensive and uprising. He also went to the city's 11th precinct to enjoy a Tet celebration with the children in the precinct.

Later, he visited and extended Tet greetings to people in Long An, Tien Giang and Ben Tre provinces, where the Ho Chi Minh City party committee organs were stationed during the years when the revolution encountered difficulties. He expressed the gratitude and loyalty of the party organization and the people of Saigon-Gia Dinh to the compatriots and comrades in these localities who had protected and cared for the leading organs of the Ho Chi Minh City party organization.

HO CHI MINH CITY OFFICIALS PAY TET VISIT TO VPA UNIT

BK091312Y Ho Chi Minh City Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1200 GMT 8 Feb 78 BK

[Text] This morning, a delegation of the Ho Chi Minh City people's and fatherland front committees led by Vu Dinh Lieu, member of the party Central Committee and chairman of the city people's committee, visited and extended tet greetings to all the cadres and combatants of the 4th Corps command.

On the occasion of the new year, Comrade Vu Dinh Lieu, on behalf of the city party and people's committees and the people, wished good health and presented gifts to the cadres and combatants of the corps. He praised the achievements scored by the corps in the past year, together with the armed forces and people of the city, in maintaining political security and public order, defending the border and making contributions to the building of the national economy. He hoped that the corps would develop its fine tradition by scoring even more outstanding exploits in order to be worthy of the people's expectations, trust and love.

On behalf of the corps, Brig Gen Vuong The Hiep, deputy political officer of the corps, expressed his gratitude at the concern and thoughtfulness which the city party and people's committees and people have extended to the cadres and combatants of the corps, and promised that the corps would satisfactorily carry out the two present strategic tasks of the army, namely: training and maintaining combat-readiness, and participating in economic building in all circumstances.

FURTHER REPORT ON GIAP TET VISIT TO VPA UNIT

BK081307Y Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 7 Feb 78 BK

[Text] On the occasion of the Mau Ngo Tet, Sen Gen Vo Nguyen Giap, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau, vice premier, minister of defense and secretary of the Central Military Party Committee, called on and conveyed Tet greetings to the Quyet Thang Corps [binh doanf]. He was warmly welcomed by the comrades of the corps command, many cadres and soldiers of the various organs and representatives of the units subordinate to the Quyet Thanh Corps.

In his talk with cadres and combatants, Sen Gen Vo Nguyen Giap conveyed the Tet greetings of President Ton Duc Thang, the party Central Committee, the government, the Central Military Party Committee and the Defense Ministry to the cadres, combatants, party members and youth union members of the Quyet Thang Corps. After recalling the corps' glorious past, especially its feats during the 1975 spring general offensive and uprising, the senior general praised the corps cadres and combatants for having, since the restoration of peace, scrupulously implemented the directives and orders of the Central Military Party Committee and Defense Ministry, and satisfactorily carried out the tasks of maintaining combat-readiness, fighting, performing drills and training, taking care of the combatants' lives, producing and building the economy.

Dealing with the corps' 1978 tasks, the senior general indicated: All cadres and combatants must thoroughly understand the resolutions of the party Central Committee and Central Military Party Committee; develop their collective ownership spirit, socialist patriotism and self-reliance; positively take initiatives; further promote combat-readiness; improve training, advanced training and development of cadres; join the entire army in effectively defending national independence and sovereignty and the fatherland's frontiers, sea areas and air space, considering this task as the principal one; and, at the same time, pay attention to production and actively cooperate with localities where troops are stationed in satisfactorily building the economy and the district level.

The senior general expressed the hope that the corps cadres and combatants would, in the new year, brilliantly carry out all tasks so as to create a new impetus enabling the corps to make outstanding progress and to achieve great combat strength, high mobility and high capacity to launch powerful surprise attacks, and thus be worthy of being the determined-to-win corps of the VPA.

On behalf of the corps cadres and combatants, the major general political officer of the corps promised the senior general that the corps would resolutely carry out all directives and resolutions of the Central Military Party Committee as well as the senior general's advice. The senior general then visited the eating, dwelling and working places of cadres and combatants of various organs depending on the corps command.

On the occasion of Tet, Sen Gen Vo Nguyen Giap also called on and conveyed his Tet greetings to the Ha Nam Ninh Province armed forces and conveyed the new year greetings and kind regards of President Ton Duc Thang, the party Central Committee, the government, the Central Military Party Committee and the Defense Ministry to cadres and combatants of the Ha Nam Ninh armed forces.

LE VAN LUONG MAKES TET VISIT TO HANOI AIR DIVISION

BK090953Y Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 2300 GMT 7 Feb 78 BK

[Text] On the occasion of Mau Ngo Tet, Comrade Le Van Luong, member of the party Central Committee Political Bureau and secretary of the Hanoi municipal party committee, visited and presented his new year greetings to the cadres and combatants of the Hanoi 361st Air Defense Division [sw doanf 361 phongf khoong], the capital command, and the cadres and workers at the Yen Phu powerplant.

Accompanying Comrade Le Van Luong were Comrades Tran Vy, alternate member of the party Central Committee, deputy secretary of the Hanoi municipal party committee and chairman of the Hanoi municipal people's committee, and Dr Pham Khac Quang, chairman of the Hanoi VFF committee.

At the 361st Air Defense Division Comrade (Hoang Phac), political officer of the division, and other comrades in the division command guided Comrade Le Van Luong and his party on a visit to the cadres and combatants of the heroic 64th Missile Battalion who were carrying out the task of defending the capital. On behalf of the comrade leaders of the 361st Air Defense Division, Comrade (Hoang Phac) informed Comrade Le Van Luong and the comrade leaders of the Hanoi municipal party committee of the process of building, fighting and nurturing of the division, and the various aspects of its current activities and training.

Comrade Le Van Luong solicitously inquired after all soldiers in the division and reminded its cadres and combatants to continuously uphold their tradition of heroism in combat, actively improve their fighting techniques and tactics, stand combat ready, satisfactorily maintain all of its weapons and equipment--valuable property of both the people and army--and actively participate, in accordance with their capabilities, in building Hanoi capital into a modern and civilized city.

Comrade Le Van Luong expressed his belief that, with the qualities and capabilities which had enabled them to score prideworthy historic achievements in defeating the U.S. aggressors, especially in foiling the strategic attack by U.S. imperialist B-52s against Hanoi, the soldiers of the 361st Air Defense Division will constantly grow stronger on the path of building the VPA into a regular, modern army.

At the capital command, on behalf of the armed forces in Hanoi, Maj Gen (Lu Giang), commander, Sen Col (Doan Tri), political officer; Sen Col (Ta Dinh Hieu), deputy commander; and several other comrades in the capital command warmly welcomed Comrade Le Van Luong and other comrade leaders of the Hanoi municipal party committee who visited the command to present their new year greetings.

In the serene atmosphere of springtime, Comrade Le Van Luong voiced his wishes that, bringing into full play the achievements scored in the past year, the capital command and armed forces in Hanoi will zealously surge forward to record many more achievements in the new year and will contribute to actively carry out the three revolutionary movements in the capital, thereby proving themselves worthy of the trust and love of the party and people.

Encouraged by the concern and care of the party, the government, and the capital party committee and people, the soldiers in charge of defending the capital and other armed forces in Hanoi promised Comrade Le Van Luong and the Hanoi municipal party committee to incessantly uphold their revolutionary offensive spirit; strengthen their stand; gain a thorough

understanding of the new situation and tasks; display high resolve in training and comprehensively building their units; actively and satisfactorily carry out the movement to strengthen army discipline and the socialist legal system; seriously implement resolution No 228 of the party Central Committee Political Bureau; and contribute to building Hanoi capital into a modern, civilized, prosperous and beautiful city.

At the Yen Phu powerplant, Comrades (Nguyen Van Lang), secretary of the (?plant) party committee, and (Nguyen Ngoc Thanh), director of the plant, informed Comrade Le Van Luong of the status of production work at the plant and of the living conditions of its cadres, workers and civil servants. Comrade Le Van Luong contributed many ideas to those of the comrade leaders of the plant on ways to achieve technical improvement and to manage production in order to insure a safe, uninterrupted and highly efficient power supply to satisfactorily support agricultural and industrial production and the people's lives.

Comrade Le Van Luong expressed his wishes that the cadres, party members and workers at the Yen Phu powerplant in Hanoi will score many new achievements in the concerted socialist emulation movement for productive labor and economization and will at the same time satisfactorily organize their lives thereby making worthy contributions to carrying out the three revolutionary movements in the capital.

7TH MILITARY REGION HOLDS MEETING ON BUILDING UNITS

BK091005Y Ho Chi Minh City Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0500 GMT 9 Feb 78 BK

[Text] In order to further accelerate the building of basic units, the 7th Military Region recently convened a conference to review the movement to build comprehensively firm and strong basic units. Attending the conference were 200 political-military cadres from various units and cadres from organs of the military region's armed forces. The conference was chaired by Maj Gen Vo Van Thanh, member of the party Central Committee and deputy political commissar of the military region. The conferees heard a report on the situation and results of the movement in the military region in the recent past. They also heard reports by a number of units where the movement was a success.

The conference devoted much time to discussing guidelines for the movement in the days ahead. The guidelines consist of continuing to accelerate and improve the movement as a basis to build firm and strong regiments, brigades and divisions and build the armed forces of precincts, districts, provinces and cities so they will fulfill their combat duties and combat-ready duties and other training and production tasks. Specifically, the main objectives of the movement to build basic units are to be ready to fight and fight well; to obtain satisfactory results in training; to fulfill and overfull norms for building the economy on a large scale; and to satisfactorily manage troops, material facilities, equipment and materials. These objectives also include making strong progress in the enforcement of discipline; scrupulously implementing all military orders and regulations and state laws; consolidating and perfecting party organizations at all levels; improving organizational and command activities; and strengthening the leadership of all echelons in the military region.

NHAN DAN ON PUBLIC DISCUSSION OF DRAFT CONSTITUTION

OW090730Y Hanoi VNA in English 0715 GMT 9 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Hanoi, VNA February 9--The mass discussion of the draft constitution will be a great political event and a very important drive for socialist democracy in the whole of Vietnam, says NHAN DAN today. The paper notes that the drafting has been completed, and that the Political Bureau of the party Central Committee has given instructions for discussion by the entire people. The public discussion, following the recovery of independence and reunification, will be another foundation stone for the system of collective

mastery, NHAN DAN says. It points out: "The new constitution will be both a summary of the achievements of the Vietnamese revolution and a conclusion drawn from the power exercised by the people for decades past under the leadership of the working class. It will also contain basic laws to guarantee the success of socialism.

"The new constitution is meant to institutionalize the revolutionary line and tasks set by the fourth party congress, i.e. strengthening the state of proletarian dictatorship; promoting the right of the labouring people to collective mastery; carrying through a revolution in production relations, in science and technology, and in ideology and culture; building a new system, a new economy, new culture, and new socialist people, and building an all-people national defence; thereby making an active contribution to the common struggle of the world's people for peace, national independence, democracy and socialism."

In conclusion, the paper calls on all party members, office employees, workers, peasants, soldiers, and intellectuals to help frame the new constitution.

NHAN DAN TET EDITORIAL ON COLLECTIVE MASTERY

OW081157Y Hanoi Domestic Service in Vietnamese 1700 GMT 6 Feb 78 OW

[Text of NHAN DAN special Mau Ngo spring issue 7 February editorial: "Mastery of Spring"]

[Text] People have written so much about spring they have almost exhausted their inspirations, yet true spring has not come. Unable to achieve mastery over their lives, people could only depict spring rain, sunshine and wind, and they finally got tired of writing about such things. Suffering under oppressive regimes and confined to a selfish, mean life without hope for a better future, people remained indifferent to the coming of spring.

Nature's changes and changes in social life do not develop at the same rate. Only when people achieve mastery over their lives can they enjoy a beautiful spring and really have intense feelings about spring. Life is most beautiful and joyful when the right to be masters is achieved by everyone and every family and when the people are masters of their country and their own destinies.

We are entering the spring of a life of everlasting spring. As masters of their country, society, nature and ourselves, our people have moved through a long, dreary era to a new era of freedom full of new development and a new, highly creative spirit.

People have always sought to understand the secrets of nature and know more about their country as well as the potential strength of society and find the shortest way to a civilized life. Collective mastery is the highest, most complete form of mastery in history, the source of all strength in the new society.

Our Vietnamese people are entering a new era in which they are achieving mastery. We are beginning a new life in which we are masters of our country, our natural resources and our own lives. We have intelligently and creatively determined our path of advance. Although many difficulties still lie ahead to challenge our will to advance, let us not be confused nor fear anything; we will certainly be able to overcome all obstacles.

One of socialism's objectives is to achieve collective mastery. The motive force for developing socialist society is the working people's increasingly developed right to collective mastery. Mankind will attain every pinnacle of civilization through the collective mastery system. In the dawn of mankind's spring, probably no one can fully describe the creative life of people who achieve collective mastery.

HO CHI MINH CITY RADIO REVIEWS SUCCESSES OF LAST LUNAR YEAR

BK090957Y Ho Chi Minh City Domestic Service in Vietnamese 0200 GMT 6 Feb 78 BK

[Article by (Nguyen Thanh): "Spring Comes as Happy News of Successes Are Blooming"]

[Summary] "In the long march to build an eternally prosperous country and an eternally happy human life, we have travelled along another stretch of road--1977, the Year of the Snake--a rough and thorny but glorious and successful one."

These spring days have seen a happy mood build among the people from every corner of the country on the nation's allround achievements. Let us review some of this happy news.

"In 1976-77, 322,000 hectares of virgin land were opened; this is equivalent to 300 villages or 30 districts, each with an average area of 1,000 hectares. Our ancestors opened 5 million hectares of cultivable land in 4,000 years. Today, we can do this job 150 times faster."

In 1977, basic soil surveys were conducted over approximately 8 million hectares in 15 southern provinces and cities from Lam Dong and Thuan Hai southward. It is reported that Hai Hung Province has gone ahead of other provinces in sowing three rice crops per year with the use of the Nong Nghiep 1-A new rice variety; that since the end of 1977 [as heard], thousands of tractors of all types have been imported for use in southern provinces in addition to 25,000 tractors of all sizes available; and that more than 1.5 million compatriots have left their native places for new economic areas, many of them going from Hanoi to Lam Dong, from Thai Binh to Minh Hai and Kien Giang and from Hai Hung and Thai Binh to Dong Nai and Song Be provinces.

"Seven large new economic areas have taken shape throughout the country. They are the economic areas of the Bac Bo delta, the Mekong River delta, the midland and mountainous region, the Thanh Nghe Tinh-Binh Tri Thien region, the Trung Bo coastal region, the central highlands and the eastern Nam Bo region."

It should be further noted that 1.4 million people in the south have become literate; that the SRV has entered the United Nations; that we have established political, cultural, economic and technical relations with France, Holland, Italy and so forth; and that we have normalized relations with other Southeast Asian countries, including Singapore and Cambodia over the past 2 years. However, these are just initial achievements.

"We are bidding farewell to the old year and welcoming the new year with the same iron-like confidence in our future we had 40 years ago when the situation was still gloomy. In welcoming the new year with new momentum, new situation and new factors, let us be resolved to advance at a gallop speed."

CORRECTION TO NHAN DAN EDITORIAL ON VCP ANNIVERSARY

Hanoi VNA in English at 0718 GMT on 3 February carries a similar report to the Hanoi Domestic Service item published as "NHAN DAN 3 February Editorial Marks VCP Anniversary" on page K 4 of the 3 February DAILY REPORT. The VNA version provides the following alternate translation of the phrase "great chauvinism":

Throughout the item, the term "great chauvinism" is rendered "big-nation chauvinism."

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A U S T R A L A S I A

M 1

AUSTRALIA, U.S. TAKE COMMON STAND AT GENEVA TRADE TALKS

OW080004Y Melbourne Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 7 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Australia and the United States may withdraw from global trade talks in Geneva unless they result in an expansion of world markets for agricultural goods. The common approach to the multinational trade negotiations was stressed after a meeting in Canberra today between the minister for trade and resources, Mr Anthony, and President Carter's deputy special trade representative, Ambassador Alan Wolff.

Mr Wolff said that the United States' position was clear. If it did not get a fundamental and meaningful deal that was favorable for agriculture, there would be no deal at all, he said. We would rather walk away from the table than conclude this round of the negotiations without agriculture getting a fair share.

Mr Anthony said it was likely that if the Americans withdrew from the talks, Australia would follow. There would be no benefit for Australia if the talks did not result in agricultural concessions.

Both Mr Anthony and Mr Wolff played down differences between Australia and the United States over tariff levels. Mr Wolff said that Australia's view had been put very forcefully by the prime minister, Mr Fraser, in their meeting in Melbourne yesterday. This meeting was arranged after a reported comment in Singapore by Mr Wolff that the Americans thought Australian tariffs were too high and that Australia should be putting its case more vigorously at trade talks in Geneva.

Today Mr Wolff said the Americans hoped that there would be a general worldwide reduction of tariffs. If there was a liberalization of agricultural markets after the Geneva talks, the United States would be prepared to negotiate for better terms for the sale of Australian beef on the American market.

FRASER STRONGLY ATTACKS EEC, U.S. IMPORT RESTRICTIONS

OW090125Y Melbourne Overseas Service in English 1230 GMT 8 Feb 78 OW

[Text] Australia's prime minister, Mr Fraser, has made a strong attack on the import restrictions of some of Australia's major trading partners. Mr Fraser used the opening today of a new Mercedes Benz assembly plant near Melbourne to contrast the trade policies of Australia and some of its partners.

He said that even in the vehicle industry--the most protected of Australian industries--20 percent of the market was reserved for imports. By contrast the European Economic Community's import policies effectively excluded all Australian dairy products, sugar and soft wheat, and kept beef imports to a negligible amount. And while Australia allowed 4,000 tons of European cheese into the country each year, it could not sell even 1 kilogram of butter to Europe because of EEC policies. The prime minister said that in the United States there were moves to restrict imports of Australian zinc.

Mr Fraser said tariff protection in Australia was falling and tariff levels were independently reviewed. This was a sharp contrast to overseas practice.

ASEAN CONSENSUS ON DHARSONO DISMISSAL REPORTED

BK090825Y Jakarta ANTARA in English 0706 GMT 9 Feb 78 BK

[Text] Jakarta, Feb 9 (ANTARA)--Foreign Minister A.I. Mochtar Kusumaatmadja said here Wednesday that during his week-long tour of ASEAN countries full understanding and consensus had been reached on the position and function of the secretary general of ASEAN. He told newsmen upon arrival here from the other four member countries of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations that ASEAN had approved Indonesia's proposal in connection with the office and function of the ASEAN secretary general.

He added, however, that the consensus would be conveyed to the other ASEAN members by Thai Foreign Minister Uppadit Pachariyangkun in his capacity as chairman of the ASEAN Standing Committee and through the Thai ambassador in Jakarta. Indonesia's proposal, according to Mochtar Kusumaatmadja, is to withdraw the present secretary general of ASEAN, H.R. Dharsono, and to replace him by Umarjadi Njotowijono, who is now Indonesia's national secretary of ASEAN.

SUHARTO DISCUSSES PRESS FREEDOM, RESPONSIBILITY

BK091118Y Jakarta Domestic Service in Indonesian 0700 GMT 9 Feb 78 BK

[Text] President Suharto reminded the national press to develop press freedom responsibly and discard the dream of freedom for its own sake. He stated this in Surakarta this morning when he inaugurated the national press monument in conjunction with the 32d anniversary of the PWI [Persatuan Wartawan Indonesia--Indonesian Journalist Association].

The head of state added that freedom for its own sake is too luxurious for us, and its bad effect on our national safety might be too expensive. He stressed that in the current development of our nation, we should be able to utilize our basic policies to develop responsible freedom to insure dynamic national stability, strong national unity and smooth national development; and all these things should be developed on the basis of pancasila and the 1945 constitution. Elaborating on the meaning of "responsible press freedom," the president said:

[Begin recording] The government has an obligation to protect a free and responsible press. But, it is the press itself which should be the first to protect its freedom. Up to the end of last January, freedom of the press had developed to the extent that it was almost uncontrollable, thus increasing the danger to our dynamic national stability. And if such a situation continued, it would have endangered our national safety. Therefore, for the sake of national interests and in order to protect the safety of our country and state from that danger, the central government was compelled to temporarily prohibit the publication of certain newspapers.

It was indeed very unpleasant for the government to take this action; and I am convinced that it was even more unpleasant for the press itself. But, in this case, we did not have a choice of being pleasant or unpleasant; we had one objective, a larger interest, namely: to protect the interest of our state and nation and to develop a free and responsible press. [end recording].

The head of state expressed his pleasure in learning that in their editorials the first day following the lifting of their ban, the newspaper expressed their strong determination to be more careful and to make self corrections.

From the newly erected national press monument, the president called on members of the press to renew their determination to restore the national press to a force that could strengthen Indonesian unity for the success of national development and to achieve progress, welfare and social justice.

The acting information minister, Sudharmono, in his address stressed the significance of the national press monument as a symbol of history. He said that the present press could inherit the spirit of struggle of press pioneers. The minister also said that a press museum is also being set up inside the national press monument. This, he said, could be used by the public to improve their knowledge of the press. But, he said, cooperation from all quarters of the public is still needed to fill the museum.

Earlier, the chairman of the Executive Board of the Central PWI, Harmoko, said that the press is aware of its responsibility. For this reason, the press will further correct and improve its organization so that the press could serve as a means for carrying on the national struggle as anticipated. Harmoko also said that the national press monument will serve as a symbol to encourage and alert the PWI. Harmoko proposed to the government that it designate 9 February as National Press Day.

The Central Java governor, Supardjo Rustam, on behalf of the Central Java provincial government, earlier symbolically handed over the national press monument in the form of a feather pen to the chairman of the Central PWI, Harmoko, and a piece of white paper to the chairman of the Central SPS [Serikat Penerbit Surat Kabar--Association of Newspaper Publishers], Djamal Ali, as symbolic tools of reporters and publishers.

Following the inaugural ceremony, the President and Mrs Suharto and other guests inspected a small exhibition on the history of the struggle of the Indonesian press inside the monument. Attending the inauguration were, among others, Deputy Speaker of Parliament and the People's Consultative Assembly Mashuri and heads of diplomatic missions of friendly countries.

APP Report

HK090925Y Hong Kong APP in English 0552 GMT 9 Feb 78 BK

[Text] Jakarta, Feb 9 (AFP)--President Suharto told the Indonesian national press today to "throw away as far as possible, the dream of having freedom for freedom's sake, because it is too luxurious for us." Such freedom, General Suharto said, may have bad effects on the safety of the nation and state for "which we may have to pay dearly." Speaking in Solo, Central Java, commemorating the birth of the Indonesian Journalist Association 32 years ago, Suharto told the Indonesian journalists press freedom has two meanings: firstly, free in carrying a report or story, secondly, "free in not publishing a report."

Making his first public statement about the Indonesian press only 3 days after the military lifted a massive press ban on seven major Jakarta daily newspapers, President Suharto said: "The government is interested in taking part in the development of a free and responsible press. The government is also obliged to guarantee the freedom of such responsible press but it is the press itself that must, in the first instance, be responsible to ensure the perpetuity of that freedom." The president said national press freedom had at the end of last month become uncontrollable, "bringing closer the danger which threatened the dynamic national stability." If allowed to develop a little bit more, it (freedom of the press) would bring danger to the safety of the nation and state, General Suharto said. He said the government had to impose the drastic press curb, to safeguard a bigger interest. "It is not pleasant for the government to do so, and I know it is especially not pleasant to the press itself. But the choice was not between pleasant and not pleasant. We have only one choice: the safety of the state and nation," President Suharto said.

Explaining how the press should behave to foster the national development of Indonesia, President Suharto charged that the national press sometimes was split into pro and con groups regarding big national issues. "The national press was sometimes also dragged into political conflicts. And it must also be noted that the national press was sometimes responsible for heating up political conflicts," General Suharto said. "But thank God it's all over now. I am all the more thankful that the editorials of the newspapers on the first day of their reappearance have shown a strong determination to be introspective and to make self corrections."

PANGGABEAN WARNS GOVERNORS TO BE ALERT TO UNREST

BK081615Y Hong Kong AFP in English 0903 GMT 8 Feb 78 BK

[Text] Jakarta, Feb 8 (AFP)--The Indonesian military does not consider the Moslems of this country its enemy, but will take stern measures against any person or group trying to oppose the democratically elected government, Defence Minister General Maraden Panggabean was quoted as saying here today.

Speaking before a meeting of almost 300 regional governors, district heads and city mayors now in progress here, Gen Panggabean said the military was considering all problems from the point of view of maintaining national stability and security. "Anything that threatens the stability of security must be sternly dealt with, irrespective of who is doing it," Gen. Panggabean said.

The defence minister in his speech mentioned that the extremist Moslem organization calling itself the Komando Jihad (Holy War Command) had made efforts to secure huge financial and military assistance from a certain foreign Muslim country. The revelation was made during the trial of a Komando Jihad man in Medan, north Sumatra, last month.

"It is clear that the Indonesian armed forces are not hostile to one of the recognized religions, a group of religious people or even a political party that is based on a certain religion," Panggabean, himself a Christian, said.

The defence minister called on the assembled government administrators to be "continuously on the alert because the possibility of a fresh wave of unrest (in Indonesia) has not been completely excluded." He said this was because "we are fully aware of the existence in Indonesia of certain powers which do not like to see the perpetuation of the state ideology, Pancasila and the 1945 constitution, the continuation of the national development program and the success of the leadership of the new order".

General Panggabean hoped that the better national situation could be maintained and even improved "not only because of the forthcoming congress sessions." The minister explained to the administrators the background of the last December 15 armed forces "brotherly warning" to antigovernment elements when university students were stepping up their campaign for a clean government.

MALAYSIA

SATELLITE DANGERS, INFORMATION DISSEMINATION QUESTIONED

BK271447Y Kuala Lumpur NEW STRAITS TIMES in English 27 Jan 78 p 14 BK

[Editorial: "Fallout Fears"]

[Text] World reaction in the fiery wake of Cosmos 954's unscheduled return to earth has generally been one of relief based on the fact that the United States and Canada say extensive checks indicate no evidence of radiation from the spy satellite. However we cannot yet completely discount a West German space observation institute's warning that the satellite left a vast radioactive trail in the upper atmosphere and that fallout of fine radioactive particles would descend on earth in a few weeks. Nagging doubts therefore remain despite the assurance that 98 percent of such fallout, if any, will have dissipated harmlessly over a wide area as it falls through the atmosphere.

Our thanks must however go largely to luck, in that the accident occurred over a barren stretch of Canada, not over a densely populated region. The hows and whys of Cosmos 954's end are an academic issue. Of more concern at the level of national governments and individuals is the question of personal safety not only in the present case but, more important, in the case of future accidents. This is an eventuality that cannot be ruled out. The American assurance that no other man-made satellites--of the thousands now in orbit--pose a similar danger must be weighed against the fact that Cosmos 954 is the third satellite equipped with a nuclear power reactor to get out of control and fall from orbit, and that there are at least 10 satellites similar to Cosmos 954 still circling the earth. Do any safety measures exist, have the countries who put their machines in space worked out and informed the other nations of the world of emergency plans, at least to minimise the dangers that could come with this sort of accident?

Curious too is the mental attitude of a Washington report that dwells on the repercussions if the satellite had disintegrated over a "Western nation." What about the other nations, particularly those in Asia where population densities are the highest in the world? Indeed why was the knowledge that Cosmos 954 was running wild limited to the two super-powers, the members of NATO and Australia, New Zealand and Japan? Would Cosmos disintegration over the crowded millions of Calcutta have mattered less than an accident over Yellowknife, Canada?

BRIEFS

WORLD BANK LOAN--The World Bank has approved a loan of 9.3 million ringgit for agricultural education in the Malaysian state of Sabah. The state minister of agriculture and fisheries, Datuk Haji Suffian Koroh, said 2.3 million ringgit is for the agriculture vocational school in Kota Belud. [Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0630 GMT 5 Feb 78 BK]

INDONESIAN AMBASSADOR DEPARTS--The outgoing Indonesian ambassador, Mohammad Hassan, is confident that cooperation between Malaysia and his country will continue to improve. He said ties between the two countries have become very close through cooperation in a number of fields. Speaking to newsmen on the eve of his departure from Kuala Lumpur, he said both countries have succeeded in cooperating in security matters, particularly in the fight against terrorists along the Sarawak-Indonesian border. Mr Mohammad Hassan served a 3-year tour of duty in Malaysia. [Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 2 Feb 78 BK]

NEW INDONESIAN ENVOY--The Malaysian Government has agreed to the appointment of the new Indonesian ambassador to Malaysia, Gen Makmun Murod. General Makmun will succeed Mohammad Hassan who has completed his term. A statement issued by the Foreign Affairs Ministry said that General Makmun was chief of staff of the Indonesian Army prior to his appointment. He was awarded the "Panglima Setia Mahkota" by the Malaysian Government in 1976 for his efforts in strengthening the cordial ties between Malaysias and Indonesia. [Kuala Lumpur Domestic Service in English 0000 GMT 4 Feb 78 BK]

TRADE SURPLUS--Malaysia's trade surplus in the third quarter of 1977 rose by more than 227 million ringgit to surpass again the 1 billion mark. According to the Central Bank's latest quarterly economic bulletin, the 1,098 billion ringgit trade surplus reflected the continuing growth in export receipts. It said the large trade surplus was mainly responsible for the overall surplus in the balance of payment which was reflected in an increase in next external reserves of the bank by 99 million to 6,844 billion ringgit as at 30 September 1977. [Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0830 GMT 2 Feb 78 BK]

NEW AUSTRIAN AMBASSADOR--The new Austrian ambassador to Malaysia, Dr Robert Marschik, on 31 January presented his letter of credentials to the king. In his message, the king said that Malaysia is firmly committed to promote peace and stability in this region and strongly believes that the maintenance of social progress and economic prosperity can only be achieved through mutual understanding and effective cooperation. He said both Malaysia and Austria were dedicated to the upliftment of the standards and values of their peoples and to the pursuit of international peace and order. [Kuala Lumpur International Service in English 0830 GMT 31 Jan 78 BK]

SINGAPORE

ARMED FORCES TO CONDUCT MILITARY EXERCISES 9-12 FEBRUARY

BK051206Y Singapore Domestic Service in English 2330 GMT 4 Feb 78 BK

[Text] The Singapore Armed Forces will be conducting military exercises in some parts of Singapore from Thursday [19 February]. At (Chochokan), the exercise on Thursday will be from 7 o'clock in the morning [2330 GMT] to midnight. In (Marseling), the exercise will be for 4 days--from Thursday to Sunday--from 8 am [0030 GMT] to midnight [1630 GMT] daily. There will also be demolition exercises at Pulau Senang [Senang Island] on Friday and Saturday.

The public is warned to stay clear of the places, and advised not to be alarmed.

BRIEFS

ANTIHIJACKING BILL--Hijacking and other offenses related to it will carry a term of life imprisonment. This is one of the provisions contained in the hijacking and protection of aircraft bill published on 3 February. The bill also proposes to make such offenses extraditable. Where there is no extradition treaty between Singapore and a state which is a party to either The Hague or Montreal convention, a gazette notification may be made applying the extradition act to such a state as though the convention constitutes an extradition treaty between Singapore and that state. [Singapore Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 3 Feb 78 BK]

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P H I L I P P I N E S

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PRC OFFICIAL LI HSIEN-NIEN'S PROJECTED VISIT ANNOUNCED

OW091328Y Manila Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 9 Feb 78 OW

[Text] The Philippines will see a high-ranking Chinese Government official visit the country this year. He is Li Hsien-nien, Communist Party vice chairman and vice premier of the People's Republic of China. Diplomatic sources revealed that the visit would take place in March after the scheduled holding of the 5th National People's Congress.

Li's trip would return the visit to Peking by President Marcos in June 1975 and help bolster Chinese ties with Southeast Asian region. It was also gathered that the Chinese official will first visit Bangladesh before coming to the Philippines.

MARCOS RECEIVES SOVIET WAR VETERANS DELEGATION

OW090037Y Manila Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 8 Feb 78 OW

[Text] The president [today] received a 3-man delegation of Soviet World War II veterans who are guests of the veterans federation of the Philippines. Led by Admiral Semen Zakharov of the Presidium of the Soviet War Veterans Committee, the delegation said it was very much impressed by the Philippines' memorials for heroes at Corregidor, Mount (?Sarap), and the Rizal shrine in (Salamba), Laguna. The president told the visitors that he too was deeply impressed by Soviet shrines he saw during his state visit in 1976.

The visiting Soviet veterans presented President Marcos with a medal of honor for his participation in the Philippines' struggle for freedom during the last world war.

MNLF DISMISSES MISUARI, APPOINTS SALAMAT HASHIM CHAIRMAN

OW090025Y Manila Domestic Service in English 1300 GMT 8 Feb 78 OW

[Text] A report from Cotabato city says the Cotabato Revolutionary Command, or KRC, in central Mindanao today repudiated the leadership of Nur Misuari as chairman of the Moro National Liberation Front [MNLF]. Aside from rejecting Misuari, the KRC branded him as a communist. Misuari's repudiation as MNLF head was contained in a 2-page manifesto signed by 58 MNLF field commanders led by Comdr Ameril al-Amin, KRC chairman.

The KRC announcement was made by Zainon Sanon, a member of the MNLF cease-fire committee in central Mindanao, during a conference with Defense Under Secretary Carmelo Barbero and military officials in Cotabato city. Sanon said similar declarations repudiating Misuari were also made by the MNLF from other districts.

The manifesto recognizes Salamat Hasim as the chairman of the MNLF.

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